Federal Communications Commission 45 L St., N.E. Washington, D.C. 20554

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DA 23-629

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PUBLIC SAFETY AND HOMELAND SECURITY BUREAU CREATES CONSOLIDATED DOCKET FOR FILINGS RELATED TO REGIONAL PLANS IN THE 806-809/851-854 MHZ BAND

PS Docket No. 23-237

By this Public Notice, the Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau announces the establishment of PS Docket No. 23-237, captioned "800 MHz Regional Plans of the 55 Regional Planning Committees," for the exclusive use for filings related to the Bureau's review and approval of regional plans or plan amendments thereto regarding the spectrum in the 806-809/851-854 MHz band (800 MHz National Public Safety Planning Advisory Committee (NPSPAC) band) designated for public safety use. We are establishing this single docket as an administrative convenience to replace the previous 55 individual dockets established on a region-by region basis. Some of the regional dockets have closed and we will close the remaining individual dockets at a later date. All active filings from the regional dockets will be transferred into the new docket.

By way of background, in 1987, the Commission set aside six megahertz of spectrum in the 800 MHz band for exclusive use by local, regional, and state public safety agencies under guidelines developed by NPSPAC. The 800 MHz NPSPAC spectrum is administered on a regional basis by 55 Regional Planning Committees (RPCs). The RPCs must develop and update their regional plans as needed to conform them to changes in the nationwide NPSPAC band plan, and to reflect other changes in the disposition of NPSPAC channels within the region, technical requirements, or procedures for assigning channels.²

Submission of Regional Plan Amendments in PS Docket 23-237. Effective immediately, all NPSPAC plan amendments must be submitted with a cover letter, signed by the regional chairperson, and must reference PS Docket 23-237 and the Region number (Example: PS Docket No. 23-237, Region xx – 800 MHz Regional Plan). RPCs may file their amendments electronically using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS).³ To expedite the amendment process, a region may electronically poll its RPC membership for review and approval of a proposed amendment. RPCs may also hold online meetings if they so choose. In addition, the RPC Chairman should send a copy of the submission via e-mail to Kim Anderson, Kim.anderson@fcc.gov of the Policy and Licensing Division, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau.

¹See 47 C.F.R. § 90.16 (no assignments will be made in spectrum designated for the Public Safety National Plan until a regional plan for the area has been accepted by the Commission). See also Development and Implementation of a Public Safety National Plan and Amendment of Part 90 to Establish Service Rules and Technical Standards for Use of the 821-824/866-869 MHz Bands by the Public Safety Services, Report and Order, Gen. Docket 87-112, 3 FCC Rcd 905 (1987) (National Plan Report and Order).

² See National Plan Report and Order, 3 FCC Rcd at 911 ¶57.

³ https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/filings/standard

Notice and Comment. The Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau will initially review any regional plan amendment and accept it or reject it with an explanation. The Bureau will place accepted plan amendments on public notice for comment before taking final action on any proposed regional plan amendment. All regional plans and amendments are available for viewing electronically by accessing the Commission's ECFS and initiating a search of the records for **PR Docket No. 23-237.**⁴

Ex Parte Rules. Presentations in PS Docket 23-237 are subject to "permit-but-disclose" ex parte rules. See 47 CFR §§ 1.1206, 1.1200(a). Persons making ex parte presentations must file a copy of any written presentation or a memorandum summarizing any oral presentation within two business days after the presentation (unless a different deadline applicable to the Sunshine period applies). Participants in this proceeding should familiarize themselves with the Commission's ex parte rules, including the general prohibition on presentations (written and oral) on matters listed on the Sunshine Agenda, which is typically released a week prior to the Commission's meeting. See 47 CFR §§ 1.1200(a), 1.1203.

People with Disabilities. To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202-418-0530 (voice). Information on the 800 MHz Regional Planning process and RPC activities is available at https://www.fcc.gov/general/800-mhz-spectrum. For further information, contact Kim Anderson, of the Policy and Licensing Division, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau at (202) 418-7604, or via email at Kim.Anderson@fcc.gov of the Policy and Licensing Division, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau.

Action by Chief, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau.

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2

⁴ https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/search/search-filings