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Guard Band Licensee and Band Manager Annual Reports Due March 1, 2024; Reports Must Be Filed Through the Universal Licensing System

By this Public Notice, the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (Bureau) reminds 700 MHz Guard Band Licensees¹ and 220 MHz Band Managers² (hereafter "Licensees") of their obligation to file timely annual reports on or before Friday, March 1, 2024.³ In the annual reports, Licensees must provide information about the manner in which the spectrum in each of their markets is being utilized.⁴ The information provided should accurately convey the current level of service being offered in each licensed area, including information regarding coverage provided by Licensees' operations and any spectrum lease agreements. Failure to file an annual report as required⁵ may result in enforcement action.

Filing Annual Reports

Licensees must file the required annual report information for each license held through the Commission's Universal Licensing System (ULS) at https://www.fcc.gov/universal-licensing-system. Under "Filing" click on the "Submit a Pleading" link. Thereafter, select "700 MHz Guard Band/Band Manager Report" under the "Pleading Type" dropdown menu, and follow the system's instructions to provide the requisite contact and filer information. After filling out filer and contact information, choose "Callsign" and enter the call sign(s) that are to be associated with an annual report. After entering the applicable call sign(s), follow directions to attach and submit the annual report(s).

¹ See 47 CFR § 27.607.

² See Request for Waivers to Provide Band Management Services Utilizing Licenses in the 220–222 MHz Band, WT Docket 02-224, Memorandum Opinion and Order, 17 FCC Rcd 20464, 20470 (WTB 2002) (Access 220 MO&O); Access 220, LLC., Assignor, and Spectrum Equity, Inc., Assignee, Application for Assignment of 220 MHz Licenses and Request for Waiver, Memorandum Opinion and Order, 27 FCC Rcd 9321 (WTB 2012).

³ Section 27.607(b) provides that the annual reports must be filed by March 1. 47 CFR. § 27.607(b).

⁴ See In the Matter of Service Rules for the 746–764 and 776–794 MHz Bands, and Revisions to Part 27 of the Commission's Rules, Second Report and Order, 15 FCC Rcd 5299, ¶ 79 (2000); 47 CFR § 27.607(b).

⁵ See 47 CFR § 27.607(c); Access 220 MO&O, 17 FCC Rcd at 20470; see also "700 MHz Guard Band Managers' First Annual Report is Due October 1, 2002," Public Notice, 17 FCC Rcd 8577 (WTB 2002). The basic information required in the annual reports was revised in April 2007. See Service Rules for the 698–746, 747–762 and 777–792 MHz Bands, WT Docket No. 06-150, Revision of the Commission's Rules to Ensure Compatibility with Enhanced 911 Emergency Calling Systems, CC Docket No. 94-102, Section 68.4(a) of the Commission's Rules Governing Hearing Aid-Compatible Telephones, WT Docket No. 01-309, Biennial Regulatory Review – Amendment of Parts 1, 22, 24, 27, and 90 to Streamline and Harmonize Various Rules Affecting Wireless Radio Services, WT Docket 03-264, Former Nextel Communications, Inc. Upper 700 MHz Guard Band Licenses and Revisions to Part 27 of the Commission's Rules, WT Docket No. 06-169, Implementing a Nationwide, Broadband, Interoperable Public Safety Network in the 700 MHz Band, PS Docket No. 06-229, Development of Operational, Technical and Spectrum Requirements for Meeting Federal, State and Local Public Safety Communications Requirements Through the Year 2010, WT Docket No. 96-86, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 22 FCC Rcd 8064 (2007).

Accessing Annual Reports

The annual reports may be viewed at https://www.fcc.gov/annual-guard-band-reports or by ULS license search at https://wireless2.fcc.gov/UlsApp/UlsSearch/searchLicense.jsp. When accessing annual reports in ULS, search for the license by call sign and view the report in license details under attachments.

For additional information on filing this annual report, please contact Thomas Reed of the Bureau's Mobility Division at 202-418-0531 or Thomas.Reed@fcc.gov.