



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
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News Media Information 202-418-0500
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DA 25-853

Released: September 16, 2025

**PUBLIC SAFETY AND HOMELAND SECURITY BUREAU AND WIRELESS
TELECOMMUNICATIONS BUREAU SEEK COMMENT ON
SAFER BUILDINGS COALITION PETITION FOR RULEMAKING ON PART 90 SIGNAL
BOOSTERS**

RM-12009

Comments Due: October 16, 2025

Reply Comments Due: October 31, 2025

The Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau and Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (collectively, the Bureaus) seek comment on a Petition for Rulemaking filed by the Safer Buildings Coalition (SBC). SBC requests the Commission revise section 90.219 of its rules to update and modify the regulatory framework for deployment of industrial signal boosters under Part 90 of the Commission's rules.¹

SBC Proposed Rule Changes

The SBC notes that Part 90 signal boosters play a crucial role in mitigating “wireless dead zones” inside “buildings, tunnels and other areas” where critical public safety radio communications would “normally be blocked.”² It states, however, that the “regulatory framework established in 2013” for industrial signal boosters “left significant implementation gaps.”³ The SBC believes those regulatory gaps have led to “poorly deployed or designed signal booster systems” that now cause “critical problems that directly impact public safety operations and first responder safety.”⁴

Specifically, the SBC submits that while section 90.219 requires signal booster operators to obtain “express consent” from the licensee of the frequencies the booster is intended to re-transmit, the

¹ The Safer Buildings Coalition Petition for Rulemaking (filed Jul. 22, 2025) (Petition) *citing* 47 CFR § 90.219 (specifying technical and operational rules for use of signal boosters in the Private Land Mobile Radio Services). *See also* 47 CFR § 90.7 (defining a signal booster as a “device at a fixed location which automatically receives, amplifies, and retransmits on a one-way or two-way basis, the signals received from base, fixed, mobile, and portable stations, with no change in frequency or authorized bandwidth”).

² Petition at 5 *citing Amendment of Parts 1, 2, 22, 24, 27, 90 and 95 of the Commission's Rules to Improve Wireless Coverage Through the Use of Signal Boosters*, Report and Order, 28 FCC Rcd 1663 (2013). The SBC notes that “[w]hile signal boosters are not the only possible solution for correcting poor public safety communications coverage inside buildings, they do play an essential role and are likely to continue doing so for the foreseeable future.” *Id.* at 5.

³ *Id.* at 6.

⁴ *Id.* The SBC states its “[r]oot cause analysis reveals three primary categories of problems requiring immediate attention” including: (1) “Failure of System Installers and Designers to Follow FCC Rules,” (2) “Lack of RF Design and Installation Competency,” and (3) “Regulatory Framework Gaps from 2013 Rulemaking.” *Id.*

rule “provides no specific guidelines for how consent is requested, granted, or tracked.”⁵ The SBC thus proposes the Commission modify section 90.219 to establish a “structured authorization framework using proven frequency coordination precedents to establish clear procedures for requesting, evaluating, granting, and tracking rebroadcast consent while maintaining frequency licensee control over their spectrum rights.”⁶ The SBC also proposes the Commission modify section 90.219 to require signal booster operators to register both Class A and Class B signal boosters in a registration database managed by the Commission, and update the requirements for manufacturer labeling of Part 90 signal booster devices.⁷

The Bureaus Seek Comment on SBC Petition

We seek comment on the SBC’s Petition and its proposed rule changes. In particular, we seek comment on whether parties agree with the SBC that improperly deployed signal boosters cause interference to public safety radio communications and whether the problem is as pervasive as SBC claims.⁸ If so, we seek comment on the extent parties believe SBC’s proposed revisions to section 90.219 of the Commission’s rules will address the problem.

We also seek comment on whether alternative solutions, beyond what SBC proposes, exist to address interference from improperly deployed signal boosters. For instance, we seek comment on whether the Commission’s rules should require part 90 signal boosters to have a self-monitoring capability and automatically shut down if the device detects that its improperly installed. We note that the Commission has similar rules for consumer signal boosters designed to operate on commercial wireless spectrum.⁹

Interested parties may file comments on or before October 16, 2025. Interested parties may file replies on or before October 31, 2025.

Ex Parte Rules

Ex Parte Rules. The proceeding shall be treated as a “permit-but-disclose” proceeding in accordance with the Commission’s *ex parte* rules. 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). Persons making oral *ex parte* presentations are reminded that memoranda summarizing the presentation must: (1) list all persons attending or otherwise participating in the meeting at which the *ex parte* presentation was made, and (2) summarize all data presented and arguments made during the presentation. If the presentation consisted in whole or in part of the presentation of data or arguments already reflected in the presenter’s written comments, memoranda or other filings in the proceeding, the presenter may provide citations to such data or arguments in his or her prior comments, memoranda, or other filings (specifying the relevant page and/or paragraph numbers where such data or arguments can be found) in lieu of

⁵ *Id.* See also 47 CFR § 90.219(b)(i) (specifying that “[n]on-licensees seeking to operate signal boosters must obtain the express consent of the licensee(s) of the frequencies for which the device or system is intended to amplify”).

⁶ Petition at 4. The SBC says that the lack of formal guidelines in the Commission’s rules “severely impacts the ability of frequency licensees to ‘maintain a reasonable level of control over these [signal booster] operations in order to resolve interference problems’[] as contemplated by the Commission’s 2013 framework.” *Id.* at 6.

⁷ *Id.* at 17 (proposing to modify the text of section 90.219(d)(5) which currently only requires signal booster operators to register Class B signal booster devices). See also 47 CFR § 90.7 (defining a Class A signal booster as a narrowband device which “amplifies only those discrete frequencies intended to be retransmitted” and a Class B signal booster as a broadband device which amplifies “all signals within the passband of the signal booster filter”); (proposing to modify the signal booster device labeling requirements specified in section 90.219(e)(5)).

⁸ *Id.* at 3.

⁹ See 47 CFR § 20.21(e)(4)-(6).

summarizing them in the memorandum. Documents shown or given to Commission staff during *ex parte* meetings are deemed to be written *ex parte* presentations and must be filed consistent with rule 1.1206(b). In proceedings governed by rule 1.49(f) or for which the Commission has made available a method of electronic filing, written *ex parte* presentations and memoranda summarizing oral *ex parte* presentations, and all attachments thereto, must be filed through the electronic comment filing system available for that proceeding, and must be filed in their native format (e.g., .doc, .xml, .ppt, searchable .pdf). Participants in this proceeding should familiarize themselves with the Commission's *ex parte* rules.

Comment Filing Instructions

Filing Requirements. Interested parties may file comments and reply comments on or before the dates indicated on the first page of this document and must reference RM-12009. Comments may be filed using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS).¹⁰

- *Electronic Filers:* Comments may be filed electronically using the Internet by accessing the ECFS: <https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs>.
- *Paper Filers:* Parties filing by paper must file an original and one copy of each filing.
 - Filings can be sent by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial courier, or by the U.S. Postal Service. **All filings must be addressed to the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission.**
 - Hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary are accepted between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. by the FCC's mailing contractor at 9050 Junction Drive, Annapolis Junction, MD 20701. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes and boxes must be disposed of before entering the building.
 - Commercial courier deliveries (any deliveries not by the U.S. Postal Service) must be sent to 9050 Junction Drive, Annapolis Junction, MD 20701.
 - Filings sent by U.S. Postal Service First-Class Mail, Priority Mail, and Priority Mail Express must be sent to 45 L Street NE, Washington, DC 20554.

For additional information or assistance on how to file a comment or reply comment or other relevant pleading, you may visit the Web at <https://www.fcc.gov/available-support-services>. You may also call the FCC ULS Customer Support Center at (877) 480-3201 and select option 2. For TTY, please call (717) 338-2824. Assistance from the FCC ULS Customer Support Center is available between the hours of 8 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except Federal holidays). To provide quality service and ensure security, all telephone calls to the FCC ULS Customer Support Center are recorded.

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).

Availability of Documents. Comments, reply comments, and *ex parte* submissions will be available via ECFS. Documents will be available electronically in ASCII, Microsoft Word, and/or Adobe Acrobat.

¹⁰ See *Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings*, GC Docket No. 97-113, Report and Order, 13 FCC Rcd 11322 (1998); *Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings*, 63 Fed. Reg. 24121 (May 1, 1998).

Additional Information. For additional information on this proceeding, contact Brian Marengo of the Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau at 202-418-0838 or Brian.Marengo@fcc.gov, or Morgan Mendenhall of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Mobility Division, at 202-418-0154 or Morgan.Mendenhall@fcc.gov.

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