



NEWS

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FCC SEEKS INPUT ON INCENTIVE AUCTION PROCEDURES

FCC proposes detailed procedures for conducting the incentive auction and seeks public comment

Washington, D.C. – The Federal Communications Commission today adopted a Public Notice seeking comment on detailed proposals for conducting the broadcast television spectrum incentive auction. This is another important step toward conducting this groundbreaking auction that will enable the FCC to repurpose spectrum voluntarily relinquished by broadcasters to increase the speed, capacity and ubiquity of mobile broadband service available to consumers and businesses throughout the country.

The Public Notice initiates the process by which the FCC will establish the final procedures for the incentive auction. It includes specific detailed proposals seeking input on crucial auction design issues, implementing decisions the Commission made in its May 2014 Incentive Auction Report and Order, including:

- The methodology for establishing opening prices for the reverse and forward auctions;
- How to determine an initial spectrum clearing target and measuring the extent of potential impairments due to inter-service interference;
- The components of the final stage rule which establishes the conditions that must be satisfied before the auction can successfully conclude;
- The implementation of the market-based reserve the Commission adopted in the May 2014 Mobile Spectrum Holdings Report and Order; and
- The factors to be considered in “optimizing” channel assignments when determining the initial auction clearing target and the final channel assignments after the auction closes.

Comments are due on or before January 30, 2015, and reply comments are due on or before February 27, 2015. The Public Notice outlines the procedures to follow when submitting comments. The input received by the Commission will be taken into account in a Procedures Public Notice that will establish the final auction design details and provide explanations and instructions to potential auction participants.

Action by the Commission December 11, 2014, by Public Notice (FCC 14-191). Chairman Wheeler, Commissioners Clyburn and Rosenworcel with Commissioners Pai and O’Rielly dissenting. Chairman Wheeler, Commissioners Clyburn, Rosenworcel, Pai and O’Rielly issuing statements.

AU Docket No. 14-252

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