

**From:** [Elizabeth Fishel](#)  
**To:** [Blaise Scinto](#); [Peter Daronco](#); [John Schauble](#); [Stephen Buenzow \(CTR\)](#); [Paul Malmud](#); [Susan Mickley](#); [Sommer Gilbert](#)  
**Cc:** [Charles Mathias](#); [Kari Hicks](#); [Sean Spivey](#); [Donald Stockdale](#); [Dana Shaffer](#); [Cecilia Sulhoff](#); [Connie Diaz](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Emergency STA Request - US Cellular  
**Date:** Friday, March 27, 2020 4:31:24 PM  
**Attachments:** [US Cellular STA 2 Donald Stockdale letter revised 03262020 FINAL.pdf](#)

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United States Cellular Corporation's (U.S. Cellular) request for an emergency STA to operate on the spectrum; and within the market areas that are associated with Advantage Spectrum, L.P. (Advantage) AT radio service (AWS-3) licenses that are identified in the attached document is granted via this email for a period of 60 days. U.S. Cellular must cease its operations on this spectrum if Advantage withdraws its approval for U.S. Cellular's use of this spectrum at any time. U.S. Cellular will be using this spectrum to provide relief during the state-of emergency caused by the spread of the coronavirus throughout the United States. This STA is authorized on a secondary non-interference basis.

U.S Cellular must cease operating on these frequencies if it causes harmful interference to any primary users. Any structure utilized to operate pursuant to this STA must comply with the height limitations specified in Section 17.7 of the Commission's rules or must be registered with the FAA. Pursuant to 47 CFR § 27.1134(f), this authorization is conditioned upon U.S. Cellular's coordinating with Federal incumbents prior to operating in the 1755-1780 MHz band. See generally NTIA-FCC Joint Coordination PN, DA 14-1023 (Jul. 18, 2014). All nonfederal operations in the 1755-1780 MHz bands are subject to the condition that the licensee must not cause harmful interference to an incumbent Federal entity relocating from these bands under an approved Transition Plan. See 47 CFR § 27.5(h) (implementing 47 U.S.C. § 309(j)(16)(C)).

U.S Cellular must file an application for Special Temporary Authorization (STA) to continue its operations within 10 days of today's date (March 27, 2020). This manually filed application must provide the names and telephone numbers of one or more individuals who will be the point-of-contacts in the event that a federal user of spectrum in the 1755-1780 MHz bands experiences interference from U.S Cellular's operations. In addition, please email a courtesy copy of the STA application to the individual FCC staff listed on this email. The mailing addresses for courier/messenger delivery and for delivery by the U.S. Postal Service are listed below.

STA applications being delivered via a courier or by messenger service must be sent to the address below:

Federal Communications Commission  
9050 Junction Drive  
Annapolis Junction, MD 20701

STA applications being delivered by the U.S Postal Service must be sent to the address below:  
Federal Communications Commission  
1270 Fairfield Road  
Gettysburg, PA 17325

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**From:** Spellmeyer, Grant <Grant.Spellmeyer@uscellular.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 26, 2020 3:02 PM  
**To:** Charles Mathias <Charles.Mathias@fcc.gov>; Tom Gutierrez <tgutierrez@fcc.gov>; Elizabeth Fishel <Elizabeth.Fishel@fcc.gov>  
**Cc:** Aaron N. Goldberger <Aaron.Goldberger@fcc.gov>; Peter Connolly <peter.connolly@hkclaw.com>  
**Subject:** Re: Emergency STA Request - US Cellular

Beth & Charles -

Advantage and U.S. Cellular have been working on this coordination issue today. Attached is a new STA request modeled on the one we filed last night. Please disregard yesterday's filing.

The new filing is identical except we have inserted a paragraph calling out 20 licenses where some level further DOD coordination is required. Those licenses are highlighted on Attachment A. We will only operate on the downlink portion at 2.1 until that is completed. Hopefully that will allow the FCC to move forward and approve this now. Our work with DOD is underway on the remaining ones.

Tom will weigh in for Advantage shortly.

Grant Spellmeyer  
Vice President - Federal Affairs & Public Policy  
U.S. Cellular  
202-290-0233

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**From:** Spellmeyer, Grant <[Grant.Spellmeyer@uscellular.com](mailto:Grant.Spellmeyer@uscellular.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 26, 2020 10:53:41 AM  
**To:** Charles Mathias <[Charles.Mathias@fcc.gov](mailto:Charles.Mathias@fcc.gov)>; Tom Gutierrez <[tgutierrez@fcc.gov](mailto:tgutierrez@fcc.gov)>; Elizabeth Fishel <[Elizabeth.Fishel@fcc.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Fishel@fcc.gov)>  
**Cc:** Aaron N. Goldberger <[Aaron.Goldberger@fcc.gov](mailto:Aaron.Goldberger@fcc.gov)>; Peter Connolly <[peter.connolly@hklaw.com](mailto:peter.connolly@hklaw.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: Emergency STA Request - US Cellular

Thanks Charles. Tom will get that underway ASAP.

Grant Spellmeyer  
Vice President - Federal Affairs & Public Policy  
U.S. Cellular

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**From:** Charles Mathias <[Charles.Mathias@fcc.gov](mailto:Charles.Mathias@fcc.gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 26, 2020 10:44:39 AM  
**To:** Spellmeyer, Grant <[Grant.Spellmeyer@uscellular.com](mailto:Grant.Spellmeyer@uscellular.com)>; Tom Gutierrez <[tgutierrez@fcc.gov](mailto:tgutierrez@fcc.gov)>; Elizabeth Fishel <[Elizabeth.Fishel@fcc.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Fishel@fcc.gov)>  
**Cc:** Aaron N. Goldberger <[Aaron.Goldberger@fcc.gov](mailto:Aaron.Goldberger@fcc.gov)>; Peter Connolly <[peter.connolly@hklaw.com](mailto:peter.connolly@hklaw.com)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL]: RE: Emergency STA Request - US Cellular

You should have someone reach out to Colonel Williams or Howard McDonald ASAP. I would have the people who normally deal with DoD on these issues reach out.

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**From:** Spellmeyer, Grant <[Grant.Spellmeyer@uscellular.com](mailto:Grant.Spellmeyer@uscellular.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 26, 2020 10:35 AM  
**To:** Charles Mathias <[Charles.Mathias@fcc.gov](mailto:Charles.Mathias@fcc.gov)>; Tom Gutierrez <[tgutierrez@fcc.gov](mailto:tgutierrez@fcc.gov)>; Elizabeth Fishel <[Elizabeth.Fishel@fcc.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Fishel@fcc.gov)>  
**Cc:** Aaron N. Goldberger <[Aaron.Goldberger@fcc.gov](mailto:Aaron.Goldberger@fcc.gov)>; Peter Connolly <[peter.connolly@hklaw.com](mailto:peter.connolly@hklaw.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: Emergency STA Request - US Cellular

Thanks. You guys were so fast last time that my guys have been pinging me. I have not heard from NTIA. Does that go to Advantage or US Cellular?

Grant Spellmeyer  
Vice President - Federal Affairs & Public Policy  
U.S. Cellular

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**From:** Charles Mathias <[Charles.Mathias@fcc.gov](mailto:Charles.Mathias@fcc.gov)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 26, 2020 10:32:28 AM  
**To:** Spellmeyer, Grant <[Grant.Spellmeyer@uscellular.com](mailto:Grant.Spellmeyer@uscellular.com)>; Tom Gutierrez <[tgutierrez@fcc.gov](mailto:tgutierrez@fcc.gov)>; Elizabeth Fishel <[Elizabeth.Fishel@fcc.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Fishel@fcc.gov)>  
**Cc:** Aaron N. Goldberger <[Aaron.Goldberger@fcc.gov](mailto:Aaron.Goldberger@fcc.gov)>; Peter Connolly <[peter.connolly@hklaw.com](mailto:peter.connolly@hklaw.com)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL]: RE: Emergency STA Request - US Cellular

Grant,

Please note that we need to coordinate this with NTIA. We gave them a heads up when you called. Sometimes that takes a little time. Can you please let us know if you have already been in contact with them; and with whom? Thanks.

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**From:** Spellmeyer, Grant <[Grant.Spellmeyer@uscellular.com](mailto:Grant.Spellmeyer@uscellular.com)>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 26, 2020 10:29 AM  
**To:** Tom Gutierrez <[tgutierrez@fcc.gov](mailto:tgutierrez@fcc.gov)>; Elizabeth Fishel <[Elizabeth.Fishel@fcc.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Fishel@fcc.gov)>  
**Cc:** Charles Mathias <[Charles.Mathias@fcc.gov](mailto:Charles.Mathias@fcc.gov)>; Aaron N. Goldberger <[Aaron.Goldberger@fcc.gov](mailto:Aaron.Goldberger@fcc.gov)>; Peter Connolly <[peter.connolly@hklaw.com](mailto:peter.connolly@hklaw.com)>  
**Subject:** Re: Emergency STA Request - US Cellular

Beth - you can confirm you have everything you need? We are anxious to start deploying today.

Grant Spellmeyer  
Vice President - Federal Affairs & Public Policy  
U.S. Cellular

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**From:** Tom Gutierrez <[tgutierrez@fcc.gov](mailto:tgutierrez@fcc.gov)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 25, 2020 5:35:43 PM  
**To:** Spellmeyer, Grant <[Grant.Spellmeyer@uscellular.com](mailto:Grant.Spellmeyer@uscellular.com)>; [elizabeth.fishel@fcc.gov](mailto:elizabeth.fishel@fcc.gov)

<[Elizabeth.Fishel@fcc.gov](mailto:Elizabeth.Fishel@fcc.gov)>

**Cc:** [charles.mathias@fcc.gov](mailto:charles.mathias@fcc.gov) <[Charles.Mathias@fcc.gov](mailto:Charles.Mathias@fcc.gov)>; Aaron Goldberger <[Aaron.Goldberger@fcc.gov](mailto:Aaron.Goldberger@fcc.gov)>; Peter Connolly <[peter.connolly@hklaw.com](mailto:peter.connolly@hklaw.com)>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL]: RE: Emergency STA Request - US Cellular

This will serve to memorialize the consent of Advantage Spectrum, and to thank all of you for your efforts on this matter..

Tom

Thomas Gutierrez

Lukas, LaFuria, Gutierrez & Sachs, LLP

8300 Greensboro Drive, Suite 1200

Tysons, VA 22102

(202) 828-9470 (work)

(301) 758-5595 (cell)

Email: [tgutierrez@fcclaw.com](mailto:tgutierrez@fcclaw.com)

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**From:** Spellmeyer, Grant [<mailto:Grant.Spellmeyer@uscellular.com>]

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 25, 2020 5:02 PM

**To:** [elizabeth.fishel@fcc.gov](mailto:elizabeth.fishel@fcc.gov)

**Cc:** Tom Gutierrez <[tgutierrez@fcclaw.com](mailto:tgutierrez@fcclaw.com)>; [charles.mathias@fcc.gov](mailto:charles.mathias@fcc.gov); Aaron Goldberger <[Aaron.Goldberger@fcc.gov](mailto:Aaron.Goldberger@fcc.gov)>; Peter Connolly <[peter.connolly@hklaw.com](mailto:peter.connolly@hklaw.com)>

**Subject:** Re: Emergency STA Request - US Cellular

Beth - Attached is a new emergency STA request from U.S. Cellular. I understand Tom Gutierrez will reply with consent from his client.

Charles - This is to address the situation we discussed last night. Thanks for your continuing assistance.

Grant Spellmeyer

Vice President - Federal Affairs & Public Policy

U.S. Cellular

202-290-0233

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**From:** Spellmeyer, Grant

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 17, 2020 1:59:46 PM

**To:** [elizabeth.fishel@fcc.gov](mailto:elizabeth.fishel@fcc.gov) <[elizabeth.fishel@fcc.gov](mailto:elizabeth.fishel@fcc.gov)>

**Cc:** [tgutierrez@fcclaw.com](mailto:tgutierrez@fcclaw.com) <[tgutierrez@fcclaw.com](mailto:tgutierrez@fcclaw.com)>; [charles.mathias@fcc.gov](mailto:charles.mathias@fcc.gov) <[charles.mathias@fcc.gov](mailto:charles.mathias@fcc.gov)>; Aaron Goldberger <[aaron.goldberger@fcc.gov](mailto:aaron.goldberger@fcc.gov)>; Peter Connolly <[peter.connolly@hklaw.com](mailto:peter.connolly@hklaw.com)>

**Subject:** Emergency STA Request - US Cellular

Beth -

See attached emergency STA request. Please let me know what else you need to get this processed as soon as possible.

Grant Spellmeyer  
Vice President - Federal Affairs & Public Policy  
U.S. Cellular  
202-290-0233



March 26, 2020

Mr. Donald Stockdale  
Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC, 20554

Re: Emergency Request for Special Temporary Authority

Dear Mr. Stockdale:

United States Cellular Corporation (“U.S. Cellular”), pursuant to Section 1.931 of the FCC’s Rules, hereby requests emergency Special Temporary Authority (“STA”) to use certain spectrum in the AWS-3 Band (G, H, and I Blocks) for a period of sixty (60) days from Commission action to assist in wireless industry efforts to keep Americans connected during the coronavirus pandemic. The FCC previously granted U.S. Cellular temporary authority to use 9 AWS-3 licenses in certain markets in the states of Washington, California, Oregon and Wisconsin. U.S Cellular expects to complete the deployment of the spectrum for the first STA this week. In those markets where it has been deployed it has had the desired effect of providing additional needed capacity which is assisting many Americans to remain

productive while sheltered in home during the pandemic. U.S. Cellular is anticipating relaxing many of the current data usage limitations including overage charges, plan data caps and limits on hotspot usage for a period of 60 days. For obvious reasons, this will have the effect of increasing the demands on the data network and U.S. Cellular wishes to take all prudent measures necessary to ensure its ability to continue to provide sustainable internet access to Americans who are largely located in rural areas. U.S. Cellular seeks temporary permission to access the 70 licenses listed on Exhibit A. As the demand on the network grows, U.S. Cellular intends to deploy this spectrum over a period of time in those markets in which U.S. Cellular determines additional spectrum is needed to accommodate the increase in data usage.

### **The Requested STA Will Serve The Public Interest**

It is undisputed that the nation is in the midst of an unprecedented national emergency, which involves “social distancing,” i.e., deliberate separation of citizens from each other, as a means of combating spread of the virus. At such a time, wireless communication obviously becomes more important than ever, as Americans will have to conduct many work and education-related activities remotely, including “telework” and “distance learning.”

U.S. Cellular has already seen a dramatic increase in data usage in the past few weeks and with the planned relaxation of data limits as described above, it is concerned that further increases in data consumption caused by more and more customers working at home during this crisis in certain of its markets may be adversely affected without access to additional spectrum.

Accordingly, U.S. Cellular requests authority, for a period of sixty days from Commission action

Mr. Donald Stockdale

March 26, 2020

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on this request, to use the spectrum authorizations listed in Exhibit A, which are currently licensed to Advantage Spectrum, L.P. (“Advantage”). U.S. Cellular will continue to monitor the performance of its network and intends to deploy this spectrum over time in those markets where increases in data usage demand additional capacity which can be provided through the use of this spectrum. Advantage has consented to U.S. Cellular’s use of the spectrum at no cost and has agreed to support U.S. Cellular’s temporary use of the spectrum to help ameliorate the growing need for internet access during this national emergency as customers pay heed to the warnings by the CDC and other health organizations to practice “social distancing”.

All the licenses listed on Exhibit A have completed Department of Defense (“DOD”) clearing and coordination with the exception of those highlighted in yellow. For those licenses highlighted in yellow, U.S. Cellular will operate in a 2.1 GHz downlink only mode until such time as DOD clearing and coordination is completed.

### **Requested Rule Waiver**

U.S. Cellular recognizes that the FCC’s Rules generally require that STA requests be submitted electronically on FCC Form 601. Accordingly, it requires a waiver of that rule. The Universal Licensing System is not configured to process STA requests involving spectrum licensed to other entities and approval would be delayed. U.S. Cellular will, however, submit a “paper” STA filing with all appropriate fees within the next ten days confirming this request. We look



Mr. Donald Stockdale

March 26, 2020

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forward to your prompt response. If you have questions concerning this request, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



Grant B. Spellmeyer

Vice President

Federal Affairs and Public Policy

### Exhibit A

CallSign	Market_BK	Market Name
WQXW422	BEA001_H	Bangor, ME
WQXW423	BEA001_I	Bangor, ME
WQXW426	BEA016_H	Staunton, VA-WV
WQXW427	BEA017_H	Roanoke, VA-NC-WV
WQXW428	BEA019_H	Raleigh-Durham-Chapel Hill, NC
WQXW429	BEA021_H	Greenville, NC
WQXW430	BEA022_H	Fayetteville, NC
WQXW431	BEA025_H	Wilmington, NC-SC
WQXW434	BEA044_H	Knoxville, TN
WQXW436	BEA093_H	Joplin, MO-KS-OK
WQXW437	BEA093_I	Joplin, MO-KS-OK
WQXW439	BEA098_H	Columbia, MO
WQXW440	BEA102_H	Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, IA-IL

Mr. Donald Stockdale

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WQXW441	BEA120_H	Grand Island, NE
WQXW442	BEA121_H	North Platte, NE-CO
WQXW443	BEA123_H	Topeka, KS
WQXW445	BEA165_H	Redding, CA-OR
WQXW447	BEA168_H	Pendleton, OR-WA
WQXW450	CMA045_G	Oklahoma City, OK
WQXW451	CMA098_G	Davenport-Rock Island-Moline, IA/IL
WQXW454	CMA157_G	Roanoke, VA
WQXW456	CMA203_G	Lynchburg, VA
WQXW458	CMA216_G	Janesville-Beloit, WI
WQXW459	CMA218_G	Wilmington, NC
WQXW461	CMA233_G	Wichita Falls, TX
WQXW466	CMA269_G	Cumberland, MD-WV
WQXW469	CMA336_G	California 1 - Del Norte
WQXW472	CMA394_G	Illinois 1 - Jo Daviess
WQXW473	CMA397_G	Illinois 4 - Adams
WQXW474	CMA412_G	Iowa 1 - Mills
WQXW475	CMA413_G	Iowa 2 - Union
WQXW476	CMA414_G	Iowa 3 - Monroe
WQXW477	CMA415_G	Iowa 4 - Muscatine
WQXW478	CMA416_G	Iowa 5 - Jackson
WQXW479	CMA417_G	Iowa 6 - Iowa
WQXW480	CMA418_G	Iowa 7 - Audubon
WQXW481	CMA420_G	Iowa 9 - Ida
WQXW482	CMA421_G	Iowa 10 - Humboldt
WQXW483	CMA422_G	Iowa 11 - Hardin
WQXW485	CMA425_G	Iowa 14 - Kossuth
WQXW487	CMA430_G	Kansas 3 - Jewell
WQXW488	CMA431_G	Kansas 4 - Marshall
WQXW489	CMA435_G	Kansas 8 - Ellsworth
WQXW490	CMA436_G	Kansas 9 - Morris
WQXW491	CMA437_G	Kansas 10 - Franklin
WQXW493	CMA442_G	Kansas 15 - Elk
WQXW497	CMA508_G	Missouri 5 - Linn
WQXW502	CMA534_G	Nebraska 2 - Cherry

Mr. Donald Stockdale

March 26, 2020

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WQXW503	CMA535_G	Nebraska 3 - Knox
WQXW504	CMA536_G	Nebraska 4 - Grant
WQXW511	CMA572_G	North Carolina 8 - Northampton
WQXW512	CMA573_G	North Carolina 9 - Camden
WQXW514	CMA575_G	North Carolina 11 - Hoke
WQXW515	CMA576_G	North Carolina 12 - Sampson
WQXW516	CMA577_G	North Carolina 13 - Greene
WQXW518	CMA599_G	Oklahoma 4 - Nowata
WQXW519	CMA601_G	Oklahoma 6 - Seminole
WQXW521	CMA603_G	Oklahoma 8 - Jackson
WQXW522	CMA604_G	Oklahoma 9 - Garvin
WQXW523	CMA605_G	Oklahoma 10 - Haskell
WQXW524	CMA607_G	Oregon 2 - Hood River
WQXW527	CMA611_G	Oregon 6 - Crook
WQXW533	CMA682_G	Virginia 2 - Tazewell
WQXW534	CMA683_G	Virginia 3 - Giles
WQXW535	CMA684_G	Virginia 4 - Bedford
WQXW537	CMA687_G	Virginia 7 - Buckingham
WQXW540	CMA698_G	Washington 6 - Pacific
WQXW541	CMA699_G	Washington 7 - Skamania
WQXW543	CMA704_G	West Virginia 4 - Grant
WQXW545	CMA707_G	West Virginia 7 - Raleigh