

Connie Diaz

From: Blaise Scinto
Sent: Tuesday, April 21, 2020 10:33 AM
To: Elizabeth Fishel; Kung, Angela; Sharkey, Steve; Wieczorek, Christopher; Fox, Russell; Paul Malmud; Peter Daronco; John Schauble; Stephen Buenzow (CTR); Susan Mickley; Sommer Gilbert
Cc: Charles Mathias; Donald Stockdale; Dana Shaffer; Kari Hicks; Sean Spivey; Cecilia Sulhoff; Connie Diaz
Subject: RE: T-Mobile -- 600 MHz STA Request
Attachments: 600 MHz STA Request -- PEA336 (G Block).pdf

I am updating this email chain to attach T-Mobile's request letter.

From: Elizabeth Fishel <Elizabeth.Fishel@fcc.gov>
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2020 2:25 PM
To: Kung, Angela <AYKung@mintz.com>; Sharkey, Steve <Steve.Sharkey@T-Mobile.com>; Wieczorek, Christopher <Chris.Wieczorek@T-Mobile.com>; Fox, Russell <RFox@mintz.com>; Blaise Scinto <Blaise.Scinto@fcc.gov>; Paul Malmud <Paul.Malmud@fcc.gov>; Peter Daronco <Peter.Daronco@fcc.gov>; John Schauble <John.Schauble@fcc.gov>; Stephen Buenzow (CTR) <Stephen.Buenzow.CTR@fcc.gov>; Susan Mickley <Susan.Mickley@fcc.gov>; Sommer Gilbert <Sommer.Gilbert@fcc.gov>
Cc: Charles Mathias <Charles.Mathias@fcc.gov>; Donald Stockdale <Donald.Stockdale@fcc.gov>; Dana Shaffer <dana.shaffer@fcc.gov>; Kari Hicks <Kari.Hicks@fcc.gov>; Sean Spivey <Sean.Spivey@fcc.gov>; Cecilia Sulhoff <Cecilia.Sulhoff@fcc.gov>; Connie Diaz <Connie.Diaz@fcc.gov>
Subject: FW: T-Mobile -- 600 MHz STA Request

Good afternoon,

Your request for STA has been granted.

If you have any questions please contact me.

Elizabeth (Beth) Fishel

T-Mobile License LLC's request for an emergency special temporary authorization (STA) to operate on unlicensed WT (600 MHz) G-Block spectrum within PEA336 has been approved for a period of 60 days. T-Mobile License LLC 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. T-Mobile License LLC 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.

T-Mobile License LLC must file an STA application for Special Temporary Authorization to continue its operations within 10 days of today's date (April 20, 2020). In addition, please email a courtesy copy of the STA application to the FCC staff members on this email. The mailing addresses for courier/messenger delivery and for delivery by the U.S. Postal Service are listed at the bottom of this email.

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

From: Kung, Angela <AYKung@mintz.com>

Sent: Monday, April 20, 2020 10:43 AM

To: Donald Stockdale <Donald.Stockdale@fcc.gov>; Charles Mathias <Charles.Mathias@fcc.gov>; Stephen Buenzow (CTR) <Stephen.Buenzow.CTR@fcc.gov>; Sommer Gilbert <Sommer.Gilbert@fcc.gov>; Elizabeth Fishel <Elizabeth.Fishel@fcc.gov>; Blaise Scinto <Blaise.Scinto@fcc.gov>; Susan Mickley <Susan.Mickley@fcc.gov>; Paul Malmud <Paul.Malmud@fcc.gov>; Peter Daronco <Peter.Daronco@fcc.gov>; John Schauble <John.Schauble@fcc.gov>; Dana Shaffer <dana.shaffer@fcc.gov>; Sean Spivey <Sean.Spivey@fcc.gov>; Kari Hicks <Kari.Hicks@fcc.gov>; Cecilia Sulhoff <Cecilia.Sulhoff@fcc.gov>; Connie Diaz <Connie.Diaz@fcc.gov>

Cc: Sharkey, Steve <Steve.Sharkey@T-Mobile.com>; Chris (Chris.Wieczorek@T-Mobile.com) <Chris.Wieczorek@T-Mobile.com>; Fox, Russell <RFox@mintz.com>

Subject: T-Mobile -- 600 MHz STA Request

Good morning:

Attached please find an emergency request for special temporary authority submitted on behalf of our client, T-Mobile USA, Inc. for unassigned spectrum in the 600 MHz band covering PEA336. Consistent with our previous requests and FCC guidance, we will submit a paper FCC Form 601 within the next 10 days confirming this request.

If you have any questions, please let us know.

Thanks,

Angela Kung
Of Counsel

Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo, P.C.
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Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo immediately at either (617) 542-6000 or at DirectorofIT@Mintz.com, and destroy all copies of this message and any attachments. You will be reimbursed for reasonable costs incurred in notifying us.



601 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Suite 800
Washington, DC 20004
202-654-5900

April 20, 2020

Via E-Mail

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:

T-Mobile USA, Inc. (“T-Mobile”),^{1/} on behalf of its subsidiary, T-Mobile License, LLC and pursuant to Section 1.931 of the Commission’s rules and the guidance recently released by the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (“Bureau”),^{2/} hereby requests emergency special temporary authority (“STA”) to use spectrum in the 600 MHz band for which it is not licensed. T-Mobile will use this spectrum to provide enhanced wireless broadband services for a period of sixty (60) days from Commission action to help keep Americans connected during the ongoing novel coronavirus pandemic. T-Mobile seeks Commission action as part of its Keep Americans Connected Pledge to help citizens overcome current challenges that have required them to remain socially distant.^{3/}

STA is in the Public Interest

With each passing day, more Americans are being separated from each other as the United States continues to fight against the novel coronavirus. Americans have been directed to work from home and take classes remotely.^{4/} T-Mobile can help. As the Commission is aware, T-Mobile

^{1/} T-Mobile USA, Inc. is a wholly owned subsidiary of T-Mobile US, Inc., a publicly-traded company.

^{2/} See 47 C.F.R. § 1.931(a)(2)(iv); *Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Provides Guidance on Requesting Special Temporary Authority and Waivers in Response to COVID-19*, Public Notice, DA 20-365 (rel. Apr. 1, 2020) (“*STA and Waiver Guidance*”).

^{3/} See News Release, *Chairman Pai Launches the Keep Americans Connected Pledge*, FCC (Mar. 13, 2020), <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-363033A1.pdf>

^{4/} See, e.g., *FCC Encouraging Staff to Telework Due to Coronavirus*, COMM. DAILY (Mar. 12, 2020); Melissa Korn, *Coronavirus Prompts Colleges to Send Students Home*, WALL STREET JOURNAL

has aggressively built out the 600 MHz spectrum for which it is authorized, delivering both Fourth Generation (“4G”) LTE and Fifth Generation (“5G”) wireless service nationwide.^{5/} T-Mobile can even better meet the unprecedented need for our country to be connected by having access to additional 600 MHz spectrum – deploying additional capacity in areas where it has already, and where it soon expects to, provide service, including in rural areas. More spectrum capacity will enable Americans to even more effectively telework, engage in distance learning (including taking tests and submitting homework, projects, and other coursework), obtain medical advice through telehealth, and simply remain connected to loved ones who may be quarantined, through applications like FaceTime. And, more capacity on T-Mobile’s network will ensure that first responders and others can communicate in the event of an escalating crisis.

Indeed, that is why the Commission recently provided relief to T-Mobile and other providers to enhance network capacity.^{6/} Accordingly, and consistent with its previous requests, T-Mobile requests authority, for a period of sixty (60) days from Commission action, to use the 600 MHz G Block covering PEA336 – Grand Forks, ND. No other party will be disadvantaged by grant of the STA because the Commission has not yet issued licenses for this spectrum. To the contrary, T-Mobile was the most successful bidder in the Commission’s auction of 600 MHz spectrum.^{7/} And, as noted above, it has already deployed much of the spectrum for which it is licensed. Accordingly, T-Mobile is uniquely positioned to use this spectrum on a temporary basis to help meet America’s connectivity demands.^{8/}

(Mar. 10, 2020), <https://www.wsj.com/articles/coronavirus-prompts-colleges-to-send-students-home-11583862936?mod=djem10point>; Ben Chapman, *New York City Shuts Two Public Schools Over Coronavirus Case*, WALL STREET JOURNAL (Mar. 12, 2020), <https://www.wsj.com/articles/new-york-city-shuts-two-public-schools-over-coronavirus-case-11584019007?mod=djem10point>.

^{5/} See, e.g., T-Mobile News, *T-Mobile Reports Record Financials and Strong Customer Growth in FY 2019, Beating Increased Guidance While Balancing Growth and Profitability* (Feb. 6, 2020), <https://www.t-mobile.com/news/t-mobile-q4-fy19-earnings>; Letter from Steve B. Sharkey, Vice President, Government Affairs, Technology and Engineering Policy, T-Mobile, to Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, GN Docket No. 12-268, *et al.*, at 1 (filed Oct. 24, 2019) (reporting that T-Mobile is proceeding on, or ahead of, the schedule the Commission established for clearing the 600 MHz band).

^{6/} See, e.g., News Release, *FCC Provides T-Mobile Temporary Access to Additional Spectrum to Help Keep Americans Connected During Coronavirus Pandemic*, FCC (Mar. 15, 2020), <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-363051A1.pdf>; News Release, *FCC Provides U.S. Cellular Temporary Access to Additional Spectrum to Help Keep Americans Connected During Coronavirus Pandemic*, FCC (Mar. 17, 2020), <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-363114A1.pdf>; News Release, *FCC Grants Verizon Temporary Spectrum Access to Keep Americans Connected During COVID-19 Pandemic*, FCC (Mar. 18, 2020), <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-363145A1.pdf>; News Release, *FCC Grants AT&T and Verizon Further Temporary Spectrum Access to Keep Americans Connected During Coronavirus Pandemic*, FCC (Mar. 20, 2020), <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DOC-363211A1.pdf>.

^{7/} See *Incentive Auction Closing and Channel Reassignment Public Notice, et al.*, Public Notice, 32 FCC Rcd 2786, Appx. B (2017).

^{8/} T-Mobile recognizes that the 600 MHz band is not yet available in all markets because of the ongoing re-packing of broadcasters from the band. T-Mobile will not use any spectrum – whether

Requested Rule Waivers

T-Mobile recognizes that the Commission's rules generally require that STA requests be submitted electronically on FCC Form 601.^{9/} Accordingly, it hereby requests waiver of that rule. Waiver is justified because, as the Commission acknowledges, the Universal Licensing System is not optimized to allow applicants to seek permission to use 600 MHz spectrum for which an applicant is not authorized, on a temporary basis.^{10/} While T-Mobile could potentially submit a request using FCC Form 601 in a paper format, doing so would elevate form over substance and potentially delay Commission action on this request.^{11/} Seeking STA through this letter will likely permit the Commission to act more quickly, allowing T-Mobile to help bridge the connectivity gap sooner, and, as indicated above, is consistent with the recent guidance provided by the Bureau.

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T-Mobile looks forward to your prompt response. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me directly.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Steve B. Sharkey

Steve B. Sharkey
Vice President, Government Affairs
Technology and Engineering Policy

cc: (Electronically)
Charles Mathias
Stephen Buenzow
Sommer Gilbert
Elizabeth Fishel
Blaise Scinto
Susan Mickley
Paul Malmud
Peter Daronco
John Schauble

authorized to others or not yet licensed by the Commission – that would conflict with any broadcaster's continuing authority to use the spectrum.

^{9/} See 47 C.F.R. § 1.931.

^{10/} See FCC, WTB Special Temporary Authority and Waiver Request Filing Guide (last visited Apr. 2, 2020), <https://www.fcc.gov/research-reports/guides/wtb-special-temporary-authority-and-waiver-request-filing-guide>.

^{11/} Nevertheless, T-Mobile expects to submit a paper FCC Form 601 within the next ten (10) days confirming this request consistent with the *STA and Waiver Guidance*.

Dana Schaffer
Sean Spivey
Kari Hicks
Cecilia Sulhoff
Connie Diaz