

Regional Planning Committee Training Program

Background

The magnitude of the 800 MHz spectrum reconfiguration, together with the ongoing implementation of 700 MHz spectrum into the operational environment, presents significant new challenges for Regional Planning Committees (RPC) in preparing their respective band utilization plans to redefine their good neighbor fences. However, rebanding radio spectrum requires more planning and provisioning than installing fence posts and rails. There are new technologies and technology trends to factor in, like Project 25 (P25) and 700MHz wireless narrowband and broadband, as well as issues to consider, like co-channel and adjacent-channel interference during the reconfiguration and spectrum expansion. As RPCs prepare for Phase 2 of the NPSPAC 800 MHz rebanding license move, they will need clear and detailed instructions on how to prepare and submit updated 800 MHz plans to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to accommodate existing and future changes. The goal of this session is to provide guidance and instructions and include tangible examples to help members with the development of the new 800 MHz Plan and submission process.

February 12, 2009 - Day One Agenda: 800 MHz Plan Focus

- 700 – 8:00 am: Breakfast
- 8:00 – 9:00 am: Workshop agenda review - Executive overview of 800 MHz Plan development and submission requirements in response to NPSPAC Rebanding
- 9:00 - 9:45 am: Jeannie A. Benfaida: FCC presentation on the regulatory environment affecting the re-submission of the 800 MHz Plan
 - Update on Canada and Mexico bordering regions
 - Q&A
- 9:45 - 10:00 am: Morning break
- 10:00 - 11:15 am: Presentation and discussion on initial RPC 800 MHz Plan submissions and the production process and lessons learned
 - NPSPAC frequency shift and impact
 - Frequency channel number modification and impact
- 11:15 - noon: Dennis Kalvels - Region 7 RPC Representative :The 800 MHz Rebanding experiences of the State of Colorado
- Noon to 1:00 pm: Lunch break
- 1:00 – 2:15 pm: Presentation of a 800MHz Plan template to support the new filing
- 2:15 – 3:00 pm: Possible enhancement to existing plans, including new technologies
- 3:00 – 3:15 pm: Afternoon break
- 3:15 – 4:00 pm: RPC interoperability considerations to include into the 800 MHz Plan
 - Discussion on rebanding impact on regional interoperability during transition
 - Strategies to manage transition interoperability (mutual aid channels, borrowed channels, network sharing, others)
- 4:00 – 5:00 pm: Steve Devine - Region 24 Representative: Presentation on Computer Assisted Pre-Coordination Resource and Database System (CAPRAD)

February 13, 2009 - Day #2 Agenda: RPC Structure, Rebanding Overview and Radio System Engineering and Repacking

- 7:00 – 8:00 am: Breakfast
- 8:00 – 8:30 am: Recap of Day One 800 MHz Plan presentation materials and action items
- 8:30 – 9:15 am: Jeannie A. Benfaida: FCC presentation Part II
 - RPC Regulatory requirements
 - Review and discussion on RPC administrative obligations and process
- 9:15 – 10:00 am: Farokh Latif - APCO-AFC: Overview of 800 MHz spectrum vacated by Sprint Nextel and strategies to pursue licensing
- 10:00 – 10:15 am: Morning break
- 10:15 – 11:00 pm: Radio channel assignment strategies and process
 - Radio contour and detailed propagation and interference analysis
 - Review of channel short spacing assignment based on noise and interference limited considerations
- 11:00 – Noon: Brian Jagan - Transition Administrator: Heading to the finish line - expected concluding activities and rebanding completion dates
- Noon – 1:00 pm: Lunch break
- 1:00 – 2:00: Logistics of repacking the 800 MHz regional spectrum resource and related cost-benefit considerations
- 2:00 – 2:45 pm: Standardization and RPC application process techniques and method
- 2:45 – 3:00 pm: Afternoon break
- 3:00 – 3:15 pm: Closing 800 MHz Rebanding Plan comments and Q&A
- 3:15 – 5:15 pm: What do jurisdictions have to do to prepare for broadband wireless?
 - Presentation on broadband wireless technologies
 - Presentation on the steps necessary to build a broadband wireless network
 - Interactive exercise: “ Let’s build a regional wireless broadband network”
- 5:15 – 5:30 pm: Closing remarks