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April 21, 2003

Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Room 4-C324 Washington, D.C. 20544

Attention:

Jeanne Kowalski, Deputy Chief

Public Safety & Private Wireless Division Wireless Telecommunications Bureau

Re:

Nevada DPS Radio System Plan

Dear Ms. Kowalski:

Enclosed with this letter is the compliance plan for the State of Nevada Department of Public Safety radio communications system as promised in my letter to you on April 7. As my letter indicated, Nevada intends to move its Department of Public Safety from its current VHF radio system to the Nevada Department of Transportation 800 MHz system as soon as possible. As a clarification to a letter you received from Highway Patrol Chief Hosmer dated April 4, 2003, we have no intention at this time of seeking ways to use the current VHF system as a long term solution.

Please note that the information provided in Table 1 to the plan is current as of today but is not complete. The additional information will be forwarded to you as soon as it is available. Thank you for your patience.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL D. HILLERBY Deputy Chief of Staff

MDH/

Cc: Kenny C. Guinn, Governor of Nevada Keith G. Munro, General Counsel, Nevada Governor's Office

FCC REGULATORY COMPLIANCE PLAN FOR STATE OF NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY RADIO COMMUNICATIONS

April 21, 2003

SUBMITTED BY:

NEVADA Department of Public Safety NEVADA Department of Transportation

NEVADA Department of Information Technology

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I Table 1

PURPOSE

This plan is submitted to the Federal Communications Commission to address and correct frequency licensing issues of existing land mobile radio systems utilized by the Department of Public Safety (DPS) within the State of Nevada. These corrections will provide short-term resolution to stop all non-authorized usage of unlicensed frequencies by the DPS. The Nevada Department of Public Safety intends to migrate users of the current high band VHF radio system to the 800MHz Nevada Shared Radio System (NSRS).

SCOPE OF PLAN

The scope of this plan is to provide an agreed upon methodology by both the State of Nevada and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) with respect to the process and timeframes to correct frequency licensing issues for land mobile radio systems that are governed by CFR-47 Part 90 and presently being utilized by the Department of Public Safety.

BACKGROUND

Based on a 1997 study¹ and recommendation by the Consulting Firm of Frank Thatcher and Associates (FTA) under the direction of the Nevada Department of Information Technology (DOIT), the Nevada Department of Public Safety was funded to implement a statewide VHF Trunked Radio System. In September of 2002, internal review of issues regarding the DPS VHF Radio system resulted in identification of unlicensed and unauthorized usage of radio frequencies allocated under CFR 47, Part 90 in the DPS radio system. A multi-agency committee established to investigate, identify issues, review alternatives and discuss these issues with the FCC have completed initial assessments and provided recommendations to the Governors Office. Based on this assessment, the State will complete and submit a plan to the FCC that addresses and corrects problems identified by the FCC and the State.

¹ Thatcher & Assocs., Mobile Radio and Microwave Study (1997).

COMPLIANCE METHODOLOGY

The State must immediately address with the FCC, issues associated with licensing and obtaining FCC authorization for all Public Safety transmitters used by the Department of Public Safety. Specifically, the State will provide a showing of the following:

- 1. Identification of geographical locations where transmitters are operating in violation of CFR 47, Part 90. This information should include latitude, longitude, and elevation.
- 2. A listing of unauthorized frequencies that have been placed into operation at the geographical locations identified under element 1.
- 3. A listing of frequencies that will be placed into operation by DPS to meet compliance requirements that:
 - a. meet eligibility requirements as defined by Part 90, Subpart B,
 - b. meet frequency coordination requirements as described by Part 90, Subpart B, Section 90.170
 - c. ensure written concurrence from existing authorized co-channel or adjacent channel users as required based on radio engineering and frequency coordination practices,
 - d. is supported by radio engineering documentation used to establish usable frequencies and service areas determined during frequency coordination
 - e. describe the process on how application for station authorization will occur and if request for temporary station authorization will be requested.
 - f. provide estimated loading
- 4. The time frames to accomplish compliance
- 5. A letter to the FCC from the state stating that compliance has been achieved

Reference: Table 1 and Diagram 1

The state has collected and compiled data requested by the FCC relating to elements in paragraphs 1,2,& 3.a,b, above and has provided this data in Table 1. Diagram 1 provides a graphical showing of locations for Mobile Relay Stations (FB2) stations. Specific data provided in Table 1 includes:

- 6. location, coordinates, and elevations of FB2 class stations
- 7. unauthorized frequencies presently in use and by geographical location
- 8. proposed frequencies that have met frequency coordination requirements and that can be submitted for station authorization and associated temporary station authorizations for conventional FB2 operation.
- 9. a number key to relate table information to site information

State staff has completed frequency searches for approximately 45% of locations where FB2 operation is in place on unauthorized frequencies. By obtaining inter-service sharing approval from the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) and Forestry Conservation Service, it will be possible for the state to achieve compliance. Concurrence letters for those frequencies that require interservice sharing from the respective service coordinator will be filed and provided to the coordination service completing DPS applications.

The FCC's request for the state to provide engineering documents that support frequency coordination findings will be provided with each submitted application. In completing frequency searches, coordination, and engineering interference contours, the State has utilized Radio Engineering Software by RadioSoft to complete the following tasks:

- a. Search FCC Granted and Pending databases
- b. Provide analysis for frequency ranking, contours and Matrix analysis:
- c. Provide engineering support documentation that provides technical parameters and calculations for interference or service contours for proposed frequencies shown in Table 1.

Frequency searches will be performed utilizing Public Safety frequency allocations described under CFR 47, Part 90, Subpart B, 90.15-90.20.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Identified frequencies will be submitted to the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) for coordination approval. Upon submittal to the FCC, the State will request a temporary station authorization. Information shown under Appendix A will be updated daily showing current status and will be available for review upon request.

PROGRAM TIMEFRAME

Timeframes to complete compliancy will be established based on time required to complete those tasks identified as follows:

- a. frequency engineering and coordination
- b. completion of FCC 601 applications
- c. completion of requests for STA's
- d. programming of DPS user equipment to remove unauthorized frequencies and replace with authorized frequencies
- e. programming of FB2 Class stations throughout the state
- f. retuning of antenna filtering systems to include receiver multicouplers, and transmitter combiners
- g. development of user operational plan

Assumptions used to establish and set hours or man days necessary to complete elements in paragraphs a –g include:

- h. programming of user equipment identified under task d. An average of 30 minutes per user device to include administrative coordination and scheduling, programming/test equipment setup, connection and cleanup, and operational check. Current inventory reflects an estimated 2000 pieces of user equipment. Estimated timeframe for this task is 1000 hours or twenty five man days.
- i. programming of FB2 class station equipment and associated tuning of receiver multicouplers and combiners is estimated at 1 day per site@ 60 sites. Estimated timeframe is sixty man days.
- j. administrative time to provide program management and development of operational support plans. An estimated time for this element is 80 man hours.

NOTE: Table 1 provides an asterisk by FB2 stations that presently require snow cat or helicopter support for access. Adverse weather will impact timeframes to accomplish FB2 reprogramming for compliancy.

The state will allocate 9 staff resources to complete logistical issues of re-channeling the DPS system, 2 staff resources to address frequency engineering and coordination. Management staff from both NDOT and DPS will address program/project management, and those issues associated with operational plans. Estimated timeframes are:

2 weeks	completion of frequency engineering/coordination
1 week	completion of applications and submittal of applications
1 week	completion and processing of sta's
2 weeks	completion of programming of site and user equipment
1 week	contingency

Pending weather delays due to site accessibility, an estimated 7 weeks will be required for full compliance upon approval of the process described in this plan.

FCC ACCEPTANCE PLAN

The requirements placed on the state to show method and process to become compliant must be approved by the FCC. The state submits this plan for review and comment and will commence to follow established tasks and timeframes. As noted, several activities have been started and must be completed as part of any approved plan.

There is also a need to bring closure and a final acceptance that the state has complied with Federal Communications Commission directions and it's rules and regulations regarding the DPS system. To this extent, the state will provide the Commission with monthly status/progress reports and upon completion of the attached program plan will provide a letter of completion and statement of compliance from the state to the FCC. By that letter, the state will guarantee that all elements and tasks included in this document have been completed.

-	, .				BLE 1					4/18/03 16:30
SITE NAME	MAP	LAT	LON	ELEV	EXIST FREQ	EXIST FREQ	PROP FREQ	PROP FREQ	APP SUBMIT	STA REQUEST
ALAMO	DESIG 35	37-20-39.	135 15 25 2		TX	RX	TX	RX		3.11.15.001.01
TEACO.	1 3,	37-20-39.	115-15-26.8	1856	*	161.0475	154.0550	158.8500	04/11/03	
				 	151.3475 154.6800	161.2575 160.6950	154.7400 154.8600	158,9400		
					465,4375	465.4375	465.5500	159.0300 460.5500	MISSED	
ANCELE	-	76.10.05							MIGGER	
ANGELS	20	36-19-05.	115-34-26.	2620	154.6800	160.9650	153.8600	158.7900	04/16/03	
			·	+	154.1300 151.0400	160.9200 160.9050	153.9800 154.6500	158,9250		
					131,0400	100.5050	134.8300	159,1500		
BEAVER *	33	37-09-18.0 N	113-53-01.0 W	2244	151.4300	161.0550	153.8600	158.7900	04/16/03	
	 		 	 -	151,2350	160,9950	153,9800	158.9250		
			<u> </u>	 	151.0100	160.9800	154.6500	159.1500		
CHRISTMAS TREE	5	35-14-58.0 N	114-44-33.0 W	1427	151.0550	160.6800	154.6500	159.2850	04/10/02	
<u></u>					151.2800	160.6950	155.1900	159.0000	04/10/03	
<u> </u>	ļi			<u> </u>	154.6800	160.7100				
POTOSI	8	35-57-24.7 N	115-29-49.6 W	2388	156 1760					
		33-31-24.714	113-29-49,6 W	2300	156.1350 151.2200	160.7550 160.7850	154.9425 155.4525	158,7225	04/10/03	
					151.0700	160.7250	133,4323	159.4725		
		······································			156.0000	160.8000				
			 		158.0750	160.8750				
ARDEN	81	35-56-43.0 N	115-02-33.0 W	1286	151.0850	160.4550	151.0050			
			110 02 25.0 11	1280	151.2800	160,4400	151.0850 151,2800	159,4050 159,2920	04/15/03	
		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			154.2650	160,3950	151,2000	139,2920		
			ļ		154.7550	160.3800				
			 		155.4300	160.3500				
APEX	21	36-20-01.3 N	114-58-34.3 W	1027	151,1000	161.1000	154.9200	159.4125	244.502	
				1	154.1450	161.1150	156.4425	159.3000	04/15/03	
					154.9200	161.2050		122,2000		
	\longrightarrow		ļ	 	155.5650	161.1450				
			 	[]	155.8500	161,3550				
HILTON	17	36-08-07.0 N	115-09-50.0 W	629	151.1300	160.4700	156.1200	159.4275	04/11/02	
					151,4000	160,4850	151,3700	170,4250	04/11/03	
					154,3100	160.6350	151.4300	170,5750		
					155.3100	160,5600				
					155.5050	160.5750				
PAHRUMP SO.		36-07-00.9 N	115-56-49.7 W	829	151.1300	160.4700	155.0625	158.7225	04/15/03	
					151.4000	160.4850	155.6475	159.4200	04/13/03	
					154.3100	160.6350	156.0000	159.2475		
			<u> </u>		155.3100	160.5600				
					155.5050	160.5750				
BEACON HILL	28	36-41-07.1	114-31-09.2	609	154.4450	161.0475	155,7900	158.9400	04/11/03	
THOUGH CAND A									2,71,02	
HIGHLAND *	37	37-53-37.8 N	114-34-41.9 W	2848	151.0175	161.0475	153.7400	158.7300	04/16/03	
		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			151.2275 154.6800	161.2575 160.6950	153.8750 154.6800	158.8500		
					465.4375	465,4375	460.5500	159.0300 465.5500		
001111										
COLUMBUS		38-09-39.1 N	118-00-12.5 W	1568	151,1075	161.0175	153.9800	158.7300	04/11/03	
	-+			+	151.2875 154.6950	151,2275	154.1150	154.1150		
					137.0930	160.6950	154.6950	159.0300		·
SAWTOOTH	119	36-56-08.6 N	116-51-02.3 W	1730	151.0025	161.0175	153.7400	158.7300	04/15/03	
					154.6800	160.6950	154.6800	159.0300		
SKULL	182	36-46-33.7 N	116-10-25.3 W	1794	151 2127	161.0/22				
BROLD	102	20-10-23,7 [4	110-10-23.3 W	1/94	151.2125	161,0175	153,9200	158.8725	04/15/03	
MILLER *	113	38-02-30.0 N	118-11-15.0 W	2317	151,0925	161.0025	154.0550	158.7300		
								130.1300		
ROUND MTN	 -	38-42-21.4 N	117-05-00.0 W	1889	154.9050	161,4525	154.9050	158,8200	04/11/03	
					161.0175	151,0325	158.7300	153.7400		
BROCK	46	38-03-06.9	117-13-33,4	2130	151.0325	161.0175	153 7400	150 7200	04115155	
				-1.50	151.2425	161.2275	153.7400 153.8450	158.7300 158.9100	04/15/03	
					154.6950	160.6950	154.6950	159.0300		
	-				465.4275	465.4375	460.5500	465.5500		
WARM SPRINGS	47	38-11-30.7 N	116-25-04.2 W	2254	151 0005	161.0177	150 0000			
	'' -	55-11-50,7 M	110-23-011	2254	151.0025 151.2125	161.0175 161.2275	153.8000 153.9200	158.7600	04/15/03	
						101.6613	133,7400	158.8800		

TABLE 1

					BLE 1					4/18/03 16:30
SITE NAME	MAP	LAT	LON	ELEV	EXIST FREQ				APP SUBMIT	STA REQUEST
	DESIG				TX	RX	TX	RX		
				├	465.4375	465.4375	465.5500	460.5500		
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	 			ļ	 		460.5625	465.5625	^^^	
AUSTIN *	76	39-27-13.3	117-06-16.4	2547	151.2125	161.0925	153.8000	159.1500		
AGDIAN	1 12	33.27.3.3	117 00-10.4	2341	131.2125	101.0925	133.8000	139.1300		
BALD MTN *		38-47-03.7	118-50-02.5	2798	151,2275	161.0025	153.8225	159.2400		
					151.0175	161,2125	151,2050	158,8725		
					154.6950	160.6950	154.6950	159,0300		
			ļ. <u></u>							
BALD PK (EAST) *	91	40-19-21.9	114-33-45.	2608	151.1225	161.0025	153.7550	159.1500		
	 				151.3325 154.6950	161.2125	153.8600	158.9400		
	1	····			134.0930	160.6950	154.6950	159.0300		
BROCKWAY *	181	39-15-48.	120-03-57.	2315	156,1200	161,0850				
					155.1300	160,9950				
					151.1300	160.9800				
CAVE MTN *	68	39-09-40.4 N	114-36-53.1 W	3260	151.0475	161.0325	153.7550	158.7300		
	ļ				151,2575	161.2425	153.8600	158.8350		
	 	.			154.6950	160.6950	154.6950	159.0300		
DENIO SUMMIT	 	41-52-19.7	118-35-10,2	1528	155.6775	155,6775				
DENIO SOMMIT	1	41-32-19.7	116-33-10.2	1328	161.0925	151.0475				
		- //	-	i	101.0525	151.0475				
DOUBLE H	111	41-28-26,5	118-03-25.3	1526	151.0025	161.5350				
					465.4375	465.4375				
EAST PEAK *		38-56-35.1	119-54-26.2	2907						
	ll									
	 	····								
EAGLE RIDGE *	75	39-29-17.	119-17-52.	2095	155.5950	160.8450				
DATO DE TODO D		25 25 171	115 17 52	2075	154.8300	160.8300	·	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	
					151.2350	160.7850				
					151.0250	160.7700				
ELKO MTN *	96	40-53-39.6 N	115-37-48.7 W	2278	151.2575	161.1075	153.7400	158.7600		
					151.0475	161.2875	153.8450	158.8650		
					154,6950	160,6950	154.6950	159.0300		
ELKO NHP		40-51-50.	115-43-57.	1562	465.4375	465.4375	460.5500	466 6500		
ELROINI	 	40-31-30.	113-43-37.	1302	403,4373	403.4373	400.3300	465.5500		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
ELLEN DEE *	110	41-47-06.7 N	114-50-25.8 W	2527	151.0325	161.0025			·····	
			111 DO 2010 W		151.2425	161,2125				
FAIRVIEW PK *	82	39-13-30.5 N	118-09-09.2 W	2502	153.9500	161.3620	153.7400	158.7300		
					151.0475	161.1525	153.8450	158.8800		
					154,6950	160,6950	154,6950	159.0300		
DI LE CONTROL		43 44 45 5	117 10 00 0		144 0040	1010000				
FLAT CREEK		41-43-46.8	117-43-02.3	1444	154.9050	154,9050				
					161.5350	151.0025				
GRINDSTONE *		40-41-58.0 N	115-54-11.8 W	2231	151.4150	161.1075	153.8000	158,7900		
OZGINDD TOTIC		10 11 30,011	110-04-11.0 11		465.4375	465.4375	465,5500	460,5500		· ;
· <u>··</u> ·································		***************************************					1444244	133,500	* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *	
KIMBERLY	74	39-18-30,6 N	115-05-09.0 W	2805	153.7850	161,0325	154.1150	158.7750		
					465.4375	465.4375	465.5500	460.5500		
MARY'S *	94	40-42-48.4 N	116-16-15.2 W	2282	151.4000	161,1075	153,8000	158.7600		
					151.1075	161.2875	153.9050	158.8650		
MCCIETTANTE	69	20.18 42.037	119-42-15.0 W	2255	156 4750	155 4750	155 4750	155 6750		
MCCLELLAN *	לט	39-15-43.0 N	117-42-13,0 W	2233	155,4750	155.4750	155.4750	155.4750		
OPHIR •		39-19-10.7	119-40-11.6	2372	155.5650	160.8150				
	 	V+1	110		154.8150	160.7850				
					154.0250	160.4400				
					151.1450	160.6350				
					151.0550	160.2450				
					10633.1250	10568.1250	10633.1250	10568.1250		
	L									
PATRICK	80	39-33-08.7	119-32-03.9	1395	155.7450	161.2800	154,0550	159.0900		
	 			ļ	154.8450	161,2500	151.1825	159.3000		
				-	154.0250	161.3550				

4/18/03 16:30

SITE NAME	MAP	LAT	LON	ELEV	EXIST FREO	EXIST FREO	PROP FREO	PROP FREQ	A DD CLIDAGY	4/18/03 16:30
	DESIG			1	TX	RX	TX	RX	APP SUBMIT	STA REQUEST
PEAVINE *	78	39-35-22.5	119-55-42.9	2504	154.7550	161.2200		, , , ,	·····	
	<u> </u>				155.4450	161.2050			····	
					151.1150	161.1900				
					42.8800	42.8800	42.8800	42,8800		
						32.000	12.0000	72,8800		
PENN HILL *	109	41-44-07.5 N	116-03-47.2 W	2742	151.0925	161,1075				
	<u> </u>				151,2725	161.2875				····
PINE GROVE *	53	38-41-02.6 N	119-11-09.9 W	2497	151.1375	161.3625				
	ļ									
PINENUT *	67	39-11-50.3	119.29.25.5	2473	154.6950	160.6500	151.1825	159.2325	·-·	
	1				154.1150	160,3350	151.3625	159.3150		
	 				153.9950	160.3050	151.4525	159.4725		
	·		 _	ļ	151.0400	160,2750				
BOITO	-	40.00.00	 	<u> </u>						·
POITO		40-25-33.9 N	119-21-05.6 W	1703	153.9725	161.3625				
		· ·	 	<u> </u>	153.7925	161.1525				
PROSPECT	 	70 27 22 22	115 60 20 4	 						
PROSPECT *	77	39-27-00.0 N	115-59-57,4 W	2919	151.2275	161.0325	153.7850	159.7300		
	1-	··· .			151.0175	161,2425	153.9050	158.8350		
	 	·			154.6950	160,6950	154.6950	159.0300		
RED PEAK	79	30.36.03.7	110 40 07 7	1	155					
REDTEAK	+ / 9	39-35-02.7	119-48-07.7	1660	155.4600	160,3650				
	╁┈┪		 	 	154,9050	160,9050				
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	1		 	 	153.9200	160,9200				
 	 		<u> </u>	 	151.2650	160.2300				
 					151,0850	161.2350				
ROCKY *	106	41-07-18.8 N	114 24 04 9 37	2495	161 100-					
ACCOR!	100	71-07-10.614	114-34-04,8 W	2485	151,1375	161.0025				
	1				151.3475	161.2125				
			 		154.6950	160.6950				
SQUAW	71	39-15-55.6 N	114-53-38.0 W	2400	151.0325	161 0226	162 0000			
	 	DJ 10 DJ 011	114-55-58.0 17	2400	151.0325	161.0325	153,8000	158.9400		
	1 1				465.4375	161.2425	153.9050	159.2100		
	1 1				403.4573	465.4375	460,5500	465.5500		
STONY	93	40-42-41.5 N	116-49-51.7 W	2124	151.0925	161,0925	153 7400	150 5000		
			110 12 2117 N		151.2725	161,2725	153.7400	158.8200		
	1				131.2723	101,2/23	153,9200	158.9250		
TOULON	88	40-07-04.0 N	118-43-43.0 W	2060	151,0325	161.3625	151 7400	150 7750		
		11 11 11 11	110 15 15.0 17	2000	151,2425	161.1525	153,7400	158,7750		
					101.2423	101.1323	153.8150	158.9400		
TV HILL *	51	38-27-27.6 N	118-45-54.8 W	3128	151.0325	161.0025	154,6500	150 0000		
***************************************			120 10 0 110 11		151.2425	161.2125	154,8300	158.8800		
					42,9400	42.7400	42.9400	159.1500		
					72,7.100	*2.7400	72.7400	42,7400		
VIRGINIA PK *	81	39-45-21.6	119-27-40.2	2536	151.1225	161.3625	151.3625	159.3000		
					151.3700	161.1525	151.4525	159.1575		
					154.6950	160.6950	154.6950	159.0300		
							.54.0750	132.0300		
WENDOVER	95	40-44-55.	114-05-56.	1557	151.1525	161.0025				·
					465.4375	465,4375	465.5500	460.5500		
WINNEMUCCA *	105	41-00-37.4	117-46-14,4	2038	151.0475	161.0925				
					151.2575	161.2725				
					154,6950	160.6950				
	<u> </u>				465.4375	465.4375	460.5500	465.5500	į.	i
TIMBER		38-22-17.2 N	115-29-40.6 W	2796	153.8000	158.7450	465.5625	460.5625		
										
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^{* =} SITE ACCESS LIMITED BY SNOW

April 7, 2003

Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Room 4-C324 Washington, D.C. 20554

Attention:

Jeanne Kowalski, Deputy Chief

Public Safety & Private Wireless Division Wireless Telecommunications Bureau

Re:

Nevada DPS VHF Radio System

Dear Ms. Kowalski,

Thank you for taking the time today to talk to me and several others here in Nevada about the Nevada Department of Public Safety (DPS) VHF Radio system. The Governor is aware and concerned about the issues associated with the DPS Radio system. The intent of the State of Nevada is to immediately request funding from the Nevada Legislature and to migrate from the VHF radio system to the Nevada Department of Transportation 800 MHz system. It is our intent to vacate non-licensed frequencies currently being used by the DPS radio system as soon as possible, recognizing that our DPS can only operate now on the VHF system.

A plan will be submitted to your office by April 21, 2003 detailing a migration path from the current VHF system to the 800 MHz system. This plan will include the identification of other VHF frequencies and a methodology to utilize existing VHF system operations in a conventional manner during the transition to the Nevada Department of Transportation's 800 MHz system. The plan will specifically identify timeframes and frequencies of the transition, and the priority process to move DPS off of the non-public safety frequencies.

To facilitate communications between your office and the State of Nevada, the State's primary point of contact will be the team of Mr. Terry Savage, Director of the Department of Information Technology; Robert Chisel, Nevada Department of Transportation; and Mr. Dave Kieckbusch, Deputy Director, Nevada Department of Public Safety.

If at any time you need to contact this office, please feel free to call me directly. Thank you again for your time and patience.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Hillerby, Deputy Chief of Staff Text | Word97



Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

News media information 202 / 418-0500 Fax-On-Demand 202 / 418-2830 Internet: http://www.fcc.gov TTY: 202/418-2555

This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action. See MCI v. FCC. 515 F 2d 385 (D.C. Circ 1974).

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE January 11, 2001

NEWS MEDIA CONTACT: Mark Rubin: 202-418-2924 E-mail: mrubin@fcc.gov

FCC ADOPTS INTEROPERABILITY STANDARD TO ENSURE EFFECTIVE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN DIFFERENT AGENCIES

Washington, DC - The Federal Communications Commission adopted a Fourth Report and Order (Fourth R&O) and Fifth Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (Fifth Notice) today, establishing a framework and issuing guidance that will allow public safety officials throughout the country to communicate with each other on designated interoperability channels in the 700 MHz band. This interoperability is essential when different public safety agencies respond to emergencies using otherwise-incompatible equipment. The Commission has long noted that the inability of different public safety agencies to efficiently communicate with one another was a concern for the public safety community. Establishing rules for the interoperability channels on the 700 MHz band will help prevent a physical disaster from becoming a communications disaster.

In the Fourth R&O, the Commission adopted Project 25 Phase I as the voice standard for communications on the 700 MHz band interoperability channels, which are channels specifically set aside to allow different public safety entities to communicate with one another. The Public Safety National Coordination Committee (NCC), a group chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act to advise the Commission on various issues related to the 700 MHz public safety band, recommended the adoption of the Project 25 Phase I standard. This standard will ensure that all radios with voice capability on the 700 MHz band will have the ability to communicate with each other on designated interoperability channels. The Commission also adopted the data standard incorporated in the Project 25 suite of standards for data communications on the 700 MHz band interoperability channels. These channels will allow public safety entities, such as police and fire departments, to send status messages or short E-mails to one another. By adopting the Project 25 Phase I standard, the Commission promotes the development of public safety equipment in the 700 MHz band and facilitates the effective use of that band by public safety entities.

In a related matter, in the Fifth Notice, the Commission seeks comment on the issue of migration to an efficiency standard of one voice path per 6.25 kHz on the General Use

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channels. Because the Commission believes that eventual adoption of such an efficiency standard would be in the public interest, it seeks further comment on the proper migration path to a 6.25 kHz efficiency standard. To encourage early use of the 700 MHz spectrum, the Commission concluded in the Fourth R&O that (1) the earliest date the Commission would require 6.25 kHz technology would be December 31, 2005, (2) any 12.5 kHz-based systems constructed and placed in operation prior to December 31, 2005 will be able to continue to purchase and deploy 12.5 kHz equipment for system expansion or maintenance, and (3) any 12.5 kHz systems constructed and placed in operation prior to December 31, 2005 will not be required to cease operations and convert to 6.25 kHz technology prior to December 31, 2015, at the earliest.

The Commission also took other actions to facilitate interoperability in the 700 MHz band. Given the primary role the states have in responding to disaster situations, the Commission concluded that states should develop and administer plans for using the interoperability channels. In the event a state is unable to develop and administer an interoperability plan, the state may delegate this function to the 700 MHz band Regional Planning Committee (RPC). The Commission also established other technical and operational requirements for the 700 MHz spectrum. Action by the Commission January 11, 2001, by Fourth Report and Order and Fifth Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (FCC 01-10). Chairman Kennard, Commissioners Ness, Furchtgott-Roth, Powell, and Tristani.

Staff contact: John Schauble at (202) 418-0797, e-mail: jschaubl@fcc.gov

WT Docket No. 96-86