



Transition
Administrator

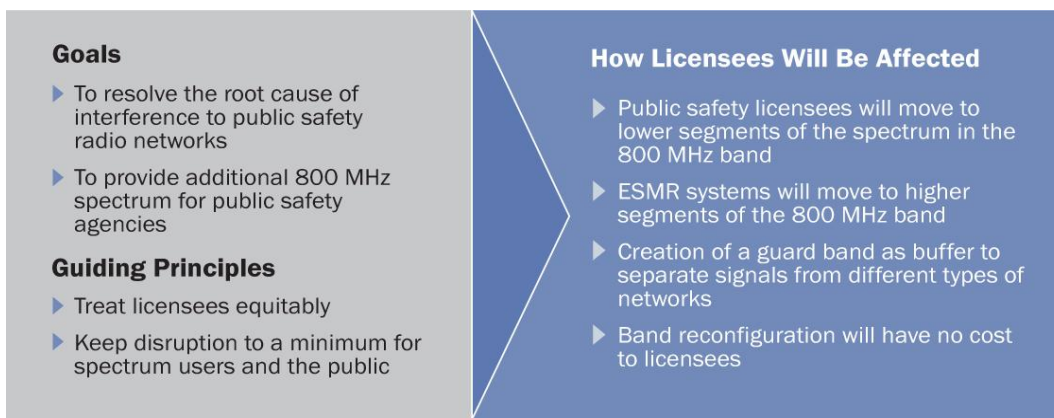
The Official Reconfiguration Manager

The 800 MHz Reconfiguration Program

Overview

Public safety radio systems—those used by police, firefighters, emergency medical technicians, and other systems operating on the 800 MHz Band—have been experiencing increasing levels of interference and “dead zones” as a result of commercial wireless carriers operating in the same or adjacent spectrum bands. Reconfiguration is designed to alleviate this interference by spectrally separating the two types of systems.

The 800 MHz reconfiguration program is part of the FCC’s plan to promote safety and protect the lives of first responders and other emergency personnel by addressing the harmful interference to public safety communication systems operating in the 800 MHz Band. 800 MHz Transition Administrator, LLC (TA, LLC) is the Transition Administrator (TA) for the reconfiguration of the 800 MHz Band mandated by the FCC.



Who needs to reconfigure in the 800 MHz Band?

Many 800 MHz systems, including public safety, critical infrastructure industries (CII), private business (B/ILT), and commercial (SMR) systems operating at 806-824 MHz/851-869 MHz will be required to relocate with the following general guidelines:

- Licensees in the 806-809 MHz/851-854 MHz Band (Channels 1-120) will be relocated.
- NPSPAC licensees in the 821-824 MHz/866-869 MHz Band will be relocated.
- Certain licensees in the newly created “Expansion” Band and “Guard” Band will have the option of relocating within the 800 MHz Band.
- Enhanced Specialized Mobile Radio (ESMR) operators, such as Sprint Nextel, will be relocated.

In addition, there are alternative band plans affecting the Expansion, Guard and ESMR bands for an area in the Southeastern Region of the United States and also for the Atlanta area.

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Regional Prioritization Plan

The TA developed the Regional Prioritization Plan (RPP) that lists the order in which the 55 National Public Safety Planning Advisory Committee (NPSPAC) regions will start the process of reconfiguration in the 800 MHz Band in the United States.

- The RPP contains four reconfiguration “Waves” or groups of NPSPAC regions, and the reconfiguration schedule for each Wave.
- Each Wave consists of two “Stages”: Stage 1 includes Channels 1-120 or the non-NPSPAC Channels which reconfigure first; and Stage 2 includes NPSPAC Channels which reconfigure after Channels 1-120.

For more information on the RPP, or to determine to which Wave you belong to, visit the Tools section of the TA’s website.

Reconfiguration Costs

Sprint Nextel is generally responsible for the cost of relocating all affected 800 MHz incumbents to new spectrum with comparable facilities to those presently in use. Per the FCC, comparable facilities are those that provide the same level of service as the incumbent’s existing facilities, including: equivalent channel capacity; equivalent signaling capability, baud rate and access time; coextensive geographic coverage; and equivalent operating costs. Licensees must certify that cost estimates are the “minimum necessary” to provide facilities comparable to those presently in use.

To ensure that adequate funding is available for the entire 800 MHz reconfiguration, the FCC has required Sprint Nextel to secure irrevocable letters of credit in the amount of \$2.5 billion and commit to providing additional funding if necessary.

Generally, costs that are reasonable, prudent, and directly related to obtaining comparable facilities to those presently in use are reimbursable. Upon review and approval of the licensee’s Request for Planning Funding or Cost Estimate pursuant to a Frequency Reconfiguration Agreement by Sprint Nextel and the TA, Sprint Nextel will initiate steps for payment of these upon the receipt of an invoice and approval by the licensee.

Negotiations

Reconfiguring 800 MHz licensees are required to negotiate the specifics of their reconfigurations with Sprint Nextel directly.

There is a three-month voluntary negotiation period for Stage 1 (Channels 1-120) licensees that begins at the start of each “Wave,” followed by a three-month mandatory negotiation period. The start of negotiations for Stage 2 licensees (on NPSPAC Channels) is dependent on the completion of the reconfiguration for Stage 1. If the licensee and Sprint Nextel do not reach an agreement by the end of the mandatory negotiation period, they will enter mediation as outlined in the Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Plan (http://www.800TA.org/content/resources/ADR_Plan.pdf), wherein the TA will mediate the negotiation of an agreement between the licensee and Sprint Nextel. The TA will refer the matter to the FCC if not resolved at the end of the ADR process.

For further guidance on reconfiguration, please visit our website (www.800TA.org).



About the 800 MHz Transition Administrator

800 MHz Transition Administrator, LLC (“TA LLC”) is the Transition Administrator (“TA”) for the reconfiguration of the 800 MHz band mandated by the Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”). TA, LLC has contracted with Deloitte Consulting L.L.P., Squire, Sanders & Dempsey L.L.P., and Baseline Telecom, Inc. to perform the duties of the TA. Among its duties, the TA establishes reconfiguration guidelines, specifies replacement channels, reviews reconfiguration cost estimates, monitors payment of reconfiguration costs, manages the relocation schedule, facilitates issue resolution and administers the alternative dispute resolution process. TA LLC uses information it receives solely for the purposes of administering the 800 MHz reconfiguration process and may disclose such information to the FCC or other authorized parties pursuant to the requirements of the 800 MHz Order or other applicable law.