



PUBLIC NOTICE

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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FCC 00-60
February 18, 2000

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION ANNOUNCES CHANGE TO THE ELECTION DATE FOR 218-219 MHZ SERVICE

On September 7, 1999, the Federal Communications Commission (“Commission”) adopted the *218-219 MHz Order*, which, among other things, modified service and technical rules for the band and extended the license term from five to ten years.¹ The Commission also adopted a restructuring plan for existing licensees that: (i) were current on installment payments as of March 16, 1998; (ii) were less than ninety days delinquent on the last installment payment due before March 16, 1998; or (iii) had pending properly filed grace period requests under the former installment payment rules (“Eligible Licensees”).² The Commission permitted Eligible Licensees to choose between three options: (i) Reamortization and Resumption of Payments; (ii) Amnesty; or (iii) Prepayment. Eligible Licenses that fail to submit an election with respect to any license by Election Day will be assumed to have elected Amnesty.

On December 28, 1999, a Preliminary Implementation Procedures *Public Notice* was issued which announced that Eligible Licensees had to make their elections by 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 29, 2000.³

The Commission has received various petitions for reconsideration of the *218-219 MHz Order*.⁴ In order to address the issues raised in the petitions for reconsideration in sufficient time in advance of Election Date, the Commission has determined to change the Election Day to the last business day of the first full month after an Order on the petitions for reconsideration is released by the Commission. A public notice announcing the new election date will be issued after the Order addressing the petitions is released.

¹ See In the Matter of Amendment of Part 95 of the Commission’s Rules to Provide Regulatory Flexibility in the 218-219 MHz Service, *Report and Order and Memorandum Opinion and Order*, FCC 99-239, WT Docket No. 98-169, RM-8951, (rel. Sept. 10, 1999)(*218-219 MHz Order*).

² See *Id.* at ¶ 37.

³ Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Announces Preliminary Implementation Procedures for 218-219 MHz Service (Formerly know as Interactive Video and Data Service (IVDS)), *Public Notice*, DA 99-3006 (rel. December 28, 1999).

⁴ See Petitions for Reconsideration and Clarification of Action in Rulemaking Proceeding, *Public Notice*, Report No. 2379 (rel. January 24, 2000).

To Obtain Information

Web site

Documents related to this rule making proceeding and its implementation may be found on the Federal Communications Commission web site located at <http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/auctions/218rest/218rest.html>.

FCC Reference Center

Documents related to this rule making proceeding and its implementation may also be examined and copied during normal business hours in the FCC Reference Center, 445 12th Street, S.W. Room CY-A257, Washington, DC 20554, telephone (202) 418-0270.

ITS

In addition, documents may be purchased from the Commission's copy contractor, ITS, Inc., 1231 20th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036, telephone (202) 857-3800.

Contacts

Questions regarding this Public Notice should be directed to Ben Freeman or Nicole Oden of the Auctions and Industry Analysis Division at (202) 418-0660 or Jamison Prime of the Public Safety and Private Wireless Division at (202) 418-0680.

Action by the Commission on February 18, 2000.