

PUBLIC NOTICE

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
445 TWELFTH STREET, S.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

News media information 202/418-0500 Fax-On-Demand 202/418-2830 Internet: <http://www.fcc.gov> <ftp.fcc.gov>

DA 13-55
Released: January 15, 2013

**SPRINT NEXTEL COPORATION AND UNITED STATES CELLULAR CORPORATION
SEEK FCC CONSENT TO THE ASSIGNMENT OF PORTIONS OR ALL OF THREE
PERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE LICENSES COVERING PARTS OF
ILLINOIS, INDIANA, MICHIGAN, MISSOURI, AND OHIO**

ULS File Nos. 0005549463, 0005549472, and 0005549491

PLEADING CYCLE ESTABLISHED

Petitions To Deny Due: January 29, 2013
Oppositions Due: February 8, 2013
Replies Due: February 15, 2013

I. INTRODUCTION

SprintCom, Inc. (“SprintCom”) and Sprint Spectrum, L.P. (“Sprint Spectrum”), both wholly-owned subsidiaries of Sprint Nextel Corporation (collectively, “Sprint”), and United States Cellular Operating Company of Chicago, LLC and USCOC of Greater Missouri, LLC, both wholly-owned subsidiaries of United States Cellular Corporation (collectively, “U.S. Cellular,” and together with Sprint, the “Applicants”) have filed applications pursuant to Section 310(d) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended,¹ seeking to assign portions or all of three Personal Communications Service (“PCS”) licenses, covering parts of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Missouri, and Ohio, from U.S. Cellular to Sprint. The Applicants state that the additional spectrum will provide Sprint with access to additional network capacity in areas of significant demand, while U.S. Cellular will be able to focus its efforts on the markets it would continue to serve.

The proposed transaction will involve the transfer of 10 to 20 megahertz of PCS spectrum in all or parts of 31 Cellular Market Areas (“CMAs”), including Chicago and St. Louis, along with the transfer of 585,000 subscribers in these areas. Preliminary review of the applications indicates that the proposed transaction does not trigger the spectrum screen in any county involved.

¹ 47 U.S.C. § 310(d).

II. SECTION 310(d) APPLICATIONS

The applications for consent to the full or partial assignment of three PCS licenses from U.S. Cellular to Sprint have been assigned the following file numbers:

<u>File No.</u>	<u>Licensee/Assignor</u>	<u>Assignee</u>	<u>Lead Call Sign</u>
0005549463	United States Cellular Operating Company of Chicago, LLC	SprintCom, Inc.	WPQL237
0005549472	United States Cellular Operating Company of Chicago, LLC	SprintCom, Inc.	WPVX733
0005549491	USCOC of Greater Missouri, LLC	Sprint Spectrum, L.P.	WPYI873

III. EX PARTE STATUS OF THIS PROCEEDING

Pursuant to Section 1.1200(a) of the Commission's rules,² the Commission may adopt modified or more stringent *ex parte* procedures in particular proceedings if the public interest so requires. We announce that this proceeding will be governed by permit-but-disclose *ex parte* procedures that are applicable to non-restricted proceedings under Section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules.³

Parties making oral *ex parte* presentations are directed to the Commission's revised *ex parte* rules. Parties are reminded that memoranda summarizing the presentation must contain the presentation's substance and not merely list the subjects discussed.⁴ More than a one- or two-sentence description of the views and arguments presented is generally required.⁵ Other rules pertaining to oral and written presentations are set forth in Section 1.1206(b) as well.⁶

IV. GENERAL INFORMATION

The assignment applications have been found, upon initial review, to be acceptable for filing. The Commission reserves the right to return any application if, upon further examination, it is determined to be defective and not in conformance with the Commission's rules or policies.

Interested parties must file petitions to deny no later than **January 29, 2013**. Persons and entities that file petitions to deny become parties to the proceeding. They may participate fully in the proceeding, including seeking access to any confidential information that may be filed under a protective order, seeking reconsideration of decisions, and filing appeals of a final decision to the courts. Oppositions to such pleadings must be filed no later than **February 8, 2013**. Replies to such pleadings must be filed no later than **February 15, 2013**. All filings concerning matters referenced in this Public Notice should refer to ULS File Nos. 0005549463, 0005549472, and/or 0005549491 as appropriate.

To allow the Commission to consider fully all substantive issues regarding the Applications in as timely and efficient a manner as possible, petitioners and commenters should raise all issues in

² 47 C.F.R. § 1.1200(a).

³ 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206.

⁴ See 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206(b)(1).

⁵ See *id.*

⁶ 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206(b).

their initial filings. New issues may not be raised in responses or replies.⁷ A party or interested person seeking to raise a new issue after the pleading cycle has closed must show good cause why it was not possible for it to have raised the issue previously. Submissions after the pleading cycle has closed that seek to raise new issues based on new facts or newly discovered facts should be filed within 15 days after such facts are discovered. Absent such a showing of good cause, any issues not timely raised may be disregarded by the Commission.

Under the Commission's current procedures for the submission of filings and other documents,⁸ submissions in this matter may be filed electronically through the Commission's Universal Licensing System ("ULS") or by hand delivery to the Commission.

- **If filed by ULS**, pleadings may be filed via <https://wireless2.fcc.gov/UlsEntry/pleadings/pleadingsType.jsp>.
- **If filed by paper**, the original and four copies of each filing must be filed by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail. All hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary must be delivered to FCC Headquarters at 445 12th St., SW, Room TW-A325, Washington, D.C. 20554. The filing hours at this location are 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes must be disposed of before entering the building. Commercial overnight mail (other than U.S. Postal Service Express Mail and Priority Mail) must be sent to 9300 East Hampton Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743. U.S. Postal Service first-class, Express, and Priority mail should be addressed to 445 12th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20554. All filings must be addressed to the Commission's Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission.

One copy of each pleading must be delivered electronically, by e-mail or facsimile, or if delivered as paper copy, by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail (according to the procedures set forth above for paper filings), to: (1) the Commission's duplicating contractor, Best Copy and Printing, Inc., at FCC@BCPIWEB.COM or (202) 488-5563 (facsimile); (2) Kathy Harris, Mobility Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, at kathy.harris@fcc.gov or (202) 418-7447 (facsimile); (3) Kate Matraves, Spectrum and Competition Policy Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, at catherine.matraves@fcc.gov or (202) 418-7447 (facsimile); and (4) Jim Bird, Office of General Counsel, at TransactionTeam@fcc.gov or (202) 418-1234 (facsimile).

Copies of the applications and any subsequently-filed documents in this matter may be obtained from Best Copy and Printing, Inc. in person at 445 12th Street, S.W., Room CY-B402, Washington, D.C. 20554, via telephone at (202) 488-5300, via facsimile at (202) 488-5563, or via email at FCC@BCPIWEB.COM. The applications and any associated documents are also available for public inspection and copying during normal reference room hours at the following Commission office: FCC Reference Information Center, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room CY-A257, Washington, D.C. 20554. The applications are also available electronically through ULS, which may be accessed on the Commission's Internet website. To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an email to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418-0530 (voice) or (202) 418-0432 (TTY). Contact the FCC to request reasonable accommodations for filing comments (accessible format documents, sign language interpreters, CART, etc.) by email: FCC504@fcc.gov; phone: (202) 418-0530 or TTY: (202) 418-0432.

⁷ See 47 C.F.R. § 1.45(c).

⁸ See FCC Announces Change in Filing Location for Paper Documents, *Public Notice*, 24 FCC Rcd 14312 (2009).

For further information, contact Kathy Harris, Mobility Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, at (202) 418-0609, or Kate Mataves, Spectrum and Competition Policy Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, at (202) 391-6272.

-FCC-