



PUBLIC NOTICE

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

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Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Postpones Effective Date of Unified Dismissal Policy for Applications in the Wireless Services

On February 24, 1999, the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (Bureau) released a Public Notice announcing a unified Bureau-wide policy for the dismissal of applications in all wireless services, to take effect on May 1, 1999.¹ This policy was adopted in accordance with the *ULS Report and Order*,² and in an effort to promote the expeditious processing of wireless applications and to make our procedures consistent for processing applications in all wireless services. In response to the Public Notice, the Federal Communications Bar Association and others have expressed concerns about the implementation of this policy on May 1, 1999 with respect to wireless applicants and licensees, particularly those in services that have not yet converted to the Universal Licensing System (ULS).

In light of these concerns, the Bureau postpones the May 1, 1999 effective date for the unified dismissal policy and will instead implement this policy in each service based on the date of its conversion to ULS. Therefore, the dismissal policy will become effective: 1) on July 1, 1999, for services that were initially licensed in ULS or were converted to ULS prior to January 1, 1999; or 2) six months after the ULS conversion date, for services converted to ULS on January 1, 1999 or later. During the interim, the Bureau encourages applicants and licensees to become familiar with the unified dismissal policy in order to reduce the likelihood of having applications dismissed when the unified dismissal policy becomes effective for the service in which they are filing applications.

If you have any questions, please contact Roger Noel of the Commercial Wireless Division (202-418-1385) or Herb Zeiler of the Public Safety and Private Wireless Division (202-418-0680).

¹ See "Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Announces Unified Policies for Dismissing and Returning Applications and Dismissing Pleadings Associated with Applications," *Public Notice*, DA 99-385 (released Feb. 24, 1999).

² See Amendment of Parts 0, 1, 13, 22, 24, 26, 27, 80, 87, 90, 95, 97, and 101 of the Commission's Rules to Facilitate the Development and Use of the Universal Licensing System in the Wireless Telecommunications Service, WT Docket No. 98-20, *Report and Order*, 13 FCC Rcd. 21027 (1998) (*ULS Report and Order*).