

NPSTC Broadband Task Force Governance Group

Recommendations

14 August 2009 - V3

The Governance Workgroup of the NPSTC Broadband Task Force (BBTF) makes these overall recommendations to NPSTC, the Public Safety Broadband Licensee (PSBL), and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC):

1. The Federal Communications Commission should issue rules which allow individual city or county governments, or groups of governments, to construct regional networks using the 700 MHz spectrum assigned to public safety. Pending the rule changes, the FCC should grant waivers to [Allow](#) qualified regional requestors who agree to build subject to the terms and conditions developed by the NPSTC BBTF.
2. The FCC should allow the PSBL to sublicense regional system constructors and operators authorized by waiver or under the changed rules. The terms of the sublicense are contained in the sublicense agreement term sheet. The regional network operator will have all rights to use the spectrum and operate the regional network as if they were the licensee, except as provided in the sublicense agreement term sheet.
3. Congress and the FCC should re-allocate the D block to public safety, thereby giving the PSBL and regional network waiver holders 20 MHz of spectrum for operation of public safety wireless broadband networks.
4. Congress and the FCC should explicitly allow regional sublicensees to use public-private partnerships for construction and operation of their networks.
5. The PSBL and regional network operators who build without a private telecommunications partner should use interconnection services for intersystem and intrasystem "roaming" rather than negotiating individual agreements or memoranda of understanding with other regional system operators.
6. Congress and the FCC should explicitly allow use of the national interoperable broadband wireless network in spectrum allocated to public safety by not only first responders, but also by emergency response support agencies (such as utilities, transportation, certain Federal government agencies, and general government). Such emergency response support agencies are critical to the safety of the public during daily incidents and emergencies, but especially during

local, regional and national disasters. Prioritization of network use between all such users would be controlled by the regional network operator.

7. The PSBL should convene a group of regional entities who are authorized to construct regional networks using the 700 MHz spectrum. This group of entities would:
 - a. continue the work of the Broadband Task Force (BBTF) to extend and codify the operations, governance and technical requirements for the network;
 - b. advise the PSBL and FCC;
 - c. work with the PSBL on other standards and agreements which improve the operability and interoperability of the national public safety broadband wireless network;
 - d. participation in this group would be a requirement of the sublicense.