

# Subcommittee Update: Federal Access to Non-Federal Bands

CSMAC Meeting

June 8, 2016

# NTIA Question

- What elements should a regulatory framework include for enabling flexible federal access to non-federal spectrum on a shared basis across a broad range of short-, mid-, and long-range time frames?
  - How could this framework balance the "regulatory certainty" that commercial spectrum users and federal agencies need to make longer-term investment decisions for shared access to be viable?
  - What options are available for the Federal Government to incentivize exclusive-use licensees to engage in shared access?

# Subcommittee Members

- Audrey Allison (co-chair)
- Charla Rath (co-chair)
- Michael Calabrese
- Mark Crosby
- Tom Dombrowsky
- David Donovan
- Paul Kolodzy
- Janice Obuchowski
- Carl Povelites
- Steve Sharkey
- Mariam Sorond
- Bryan Tramont
- Jennifer Warren

NTIA Liaison:

- Rich Orsulak

# Progress Since Last CSMAC Meeting

- Three meetings (one with DOD)
- Detailed meeting with DOD to discuss range of issues related to agency's access to spectrum
- Refined three recommendations already presented to CSMAC
- Added fourth recommendation
- Prepared initial draft of white paper outlining rationale for recommendations

# Preliminary Recommendations

- Because the process to share non-Federal spectrum is not universally known by Federal Agencies, NTIA, in coordination with the FCC, should prepare a reference document describing the existing protocols for Federal agencies to gain access to non-Federal public safety spectrum.
- NTIA should develop and maintain a database that reports (pending and) executed bi-directional MOUs as both a reference and evidence of best practices, or in the alternative coordinate with the FCC on its development and maintenance of such a database. (Regardless of which agency maintains the database, both should provide easy access/links to it on their websites.)
- NTIA, in collaboration with the FCC, should explore whether there is any benefit (e.g., no need for an MOU) to Federal agencies holding an authorization for non-Federal government spectrum and a non-Federal entity holding an authorization for Federal spectrum, recognizing the current spectrum management authorities for each.
- NTIA, in coordination with the FCC, should carefully develop a multi-disciplinary workshop to address issues facing Federal users in meeting their spectrum needs, including issues that hinder federal and non-Federal users sharing spectrum and other federal processes (including, for example, equipment certification) that may deter sharing.

# Next Steps

- Amend recommendations based on CSMAC feedback
- Distribute final white paper to full CSMAC by July 1