



**Federal Communications Commission  
Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau**



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# **FCC Public Safety Regulatory Update**

**FCC Intergovernmental Advisory Committee  
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# Outline



- Public Safety Broadband Network
- Next Generation 9-1-1
- Commercial Mobile Alerts -- Personal Localized Alerting Network (PLAN)
- Narrowbanding
- Other Public Safety Issues



# Public Safety Broadband Network Payroll Tax Bill Provisions



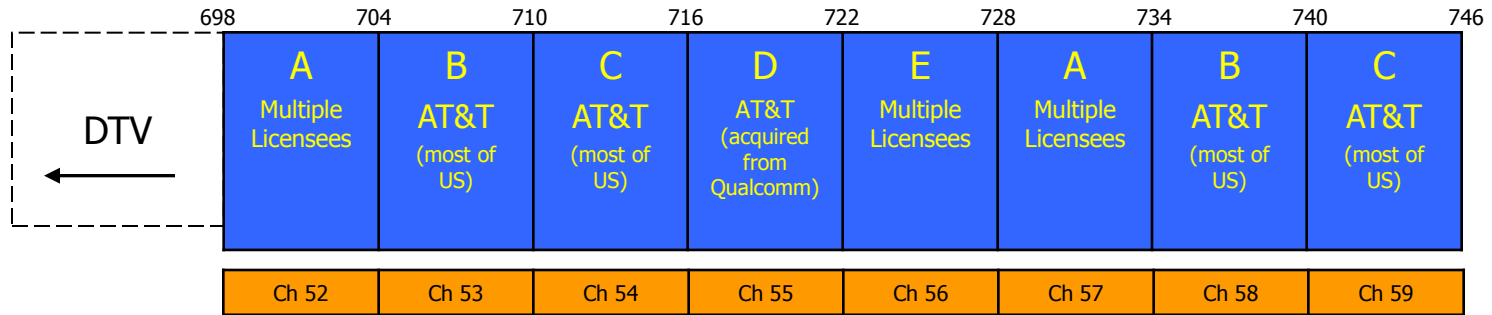
- 700 MHz D Block to be reallocated to public safety
- First Responder Network Authority (new entity within NTIA) will hold public safety broadband license and be responsible for network deployment and operation
  - FirstNet board of directors will include federal, state, and local representatives (NTIA must appoint state/local members by August 20, 2012)
- Up to \$7.3 billion in funding for network from future FCC incentive auctions (NTIA can borrow \$2 billion up front)
- States can “opt-out” and deploy state networks (subject to FCC approval)



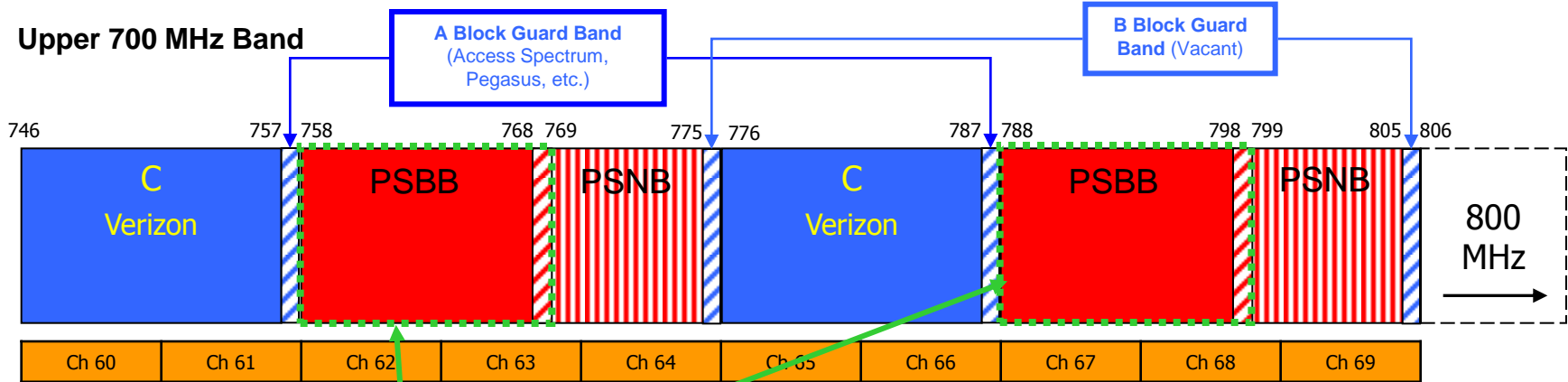
# 700 MHz Band – Post-Legislation



## Lower 700 MHz Band



## Upper 700 MHz Band





# Public Safety Broadband Network Transition Mechanisms



- FCC will facilitate transition of public safety broadband spectrum to FirstNet
- FCC Technical Advisory Board for First Responder Interoperability (Interoperability Board)
  - Purpose: to develop recommended technical requirements to ensure nationwide interoperability, based on the LTE standard
  - Board recommendations submitted to FCC for review
  - FCC approves Interoperability Board recommendations (with any revisions it deems necessary) and transmits them to FirstNet
- Timing
  - By March 23 -- FCC must appoint Interoperability Board members
  - By May 22 -- Board must submit recommendations to FCC
  - By June 21 -- FCC must transmit recommendations to FirstNet



# Next Generation 9-1-1 Payroll Tax Bill Provisions



- NET 9-1-1 Act liability protection extended to NG9-1-1
- 9-1-1 Implementation and Coordination Office (ICO) reestablished within NHTSA/NTIA
- FCC and other agencies to report to Congress on NG9-1-1 costs and recommendations for a legal/regulatory framework to further NG9-1-1
- \$115 million in grant funding for 9-1-1/NG9-1-1 from FCC incentive auctions (funding is contingent on meeting \$20 billion deficit reduction target)
- GAO to report to Congress on state/local use of 9-1-1 fees



# Next Generation 9-1-1 FCC Proceedings



- Enabling Text-to-9-1-1 and 9-1-1 Data, Photo, and Video Applications (NPRM in September 2011; comments/replies have been filed)
  - Issues: Feasibility of implementing “pre-NG” text-to-9-1-1 (e.g., SMS-based texting) in the near term
  - Mechanisms for facilitating IP-based delivery of real-time text, photos, videos, and other data to NG-capable PSAPs
  - Enhancing 9-1-1 access for people with disabilities through text and multimedia applications
  - Consumer education and disclosure to address non-uniform availability of NG9-1-1
- Location Accuracy for NG9-1-1 (Further Notice in July 2011; comments/replies have been filed)
  - Issues: Extending 9-1-1 requirements to “outbound-only” VoIP; enabling automatic location for 9-1-1 calls from VoIP and other broadband-enabled voice services



# Personal Localized Alerting Network (PLAN)



- New mobile alerting system (also known as Commercial Mobile Alert System) will deliver geographically-targeted alerts to wireless consumers
  - Partnership between FCC, FEMA, and wireless industry
  - Used for critical emergency alerts only
  - Participating carriers will deliver PLAN alerts to all subscribers with PLAN-capable handsets (no subscriber sign-up required)
- Participating wireless carriers will begin to deliver PLAN alerts on April 7, 2012
  - Non-participating carriers must notify subscribers that they are not providing PLAN alerts





# VHF/UHF Narrowbanding



- Deadline is **January 1, 2013!**
  - By the deadline, VHF/UHF licensees must migrate their systems from 25 kHz to 12.5 kHz channel bandwidth
  - Narrowbanding will relieve spectrum congestion and result in increased channel availability
  - Non-compliant licensees risk harmful interference and FCC enforcement action
- Any licensee requiring more time to narrowband must request a waiver
  - Waiver requests must be well-documented to meet the FCC's waiver standard and will not be routinely granted
  - Licensees should ask for only as much time as necessary to achieve compliance by a date certain in a timely fashion



# Other Public Safety Issues



- Outage Reporting – Reporting requirements now extended to VoIP
- Cyber Security – FCC urging Internet community to develop voluntary measures for combating cyber threats to communications networks
- Wireless Service Interruptions – FCC seeking comment on legal/policy issues where government interrupts wireless service for public safety purposes



# For More Information



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