



Transition  
Administrator

The Official Reconfiguration Manager

# **800 MHz Band Reconfiguration**

## **NSMA – Spectrum Management 2009**

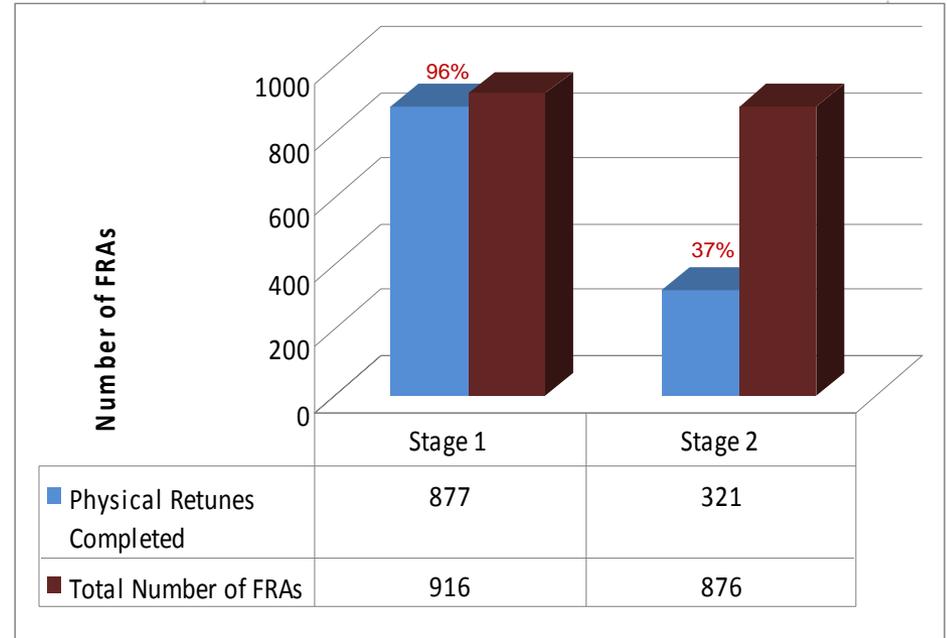
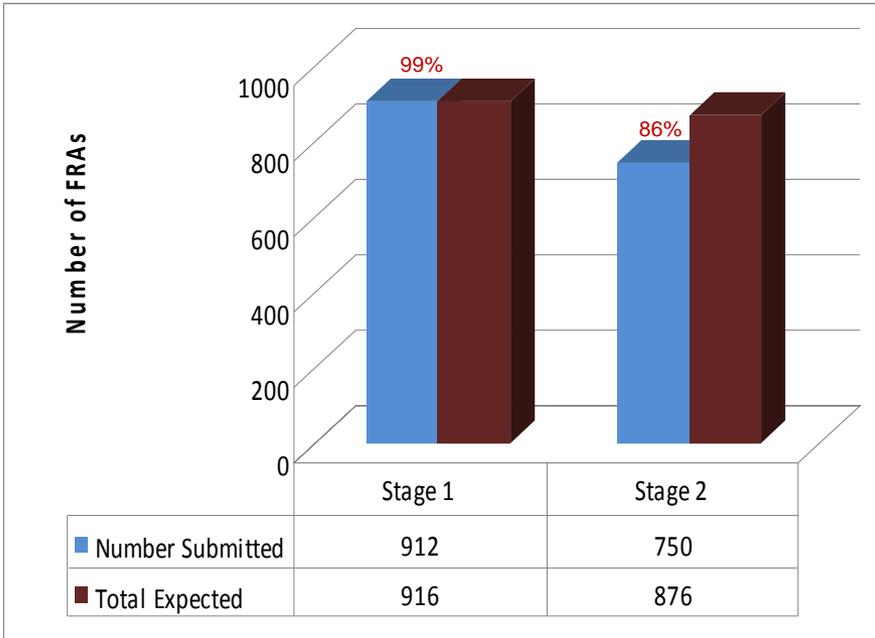
**May 19, 2009**

- **Reconfiguration Status**
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## Reconfiguration Status of 800 MHz Licensees

**Non-border Frequency Reconfiguration Agreements (FRAs) Submitted to the TA as of March 31, 2009**

**Non-border FRAs with Reconfiguration Implementation Complete as of March 31, 2009**



Public Safety reconfiguration progress in certain regions is impacted by the lack of FRAs between Sprint Nextel and key licensees. As such, the TA is focused on the mediations for those non-border licensees who have not reached an FRA .

- On May 9, 2008, the FCC released a *Second Report and Order* establishing a reconfigured 800 MHz band plan in the U.S.-Canada border regions
- The FCC approved the TA's Implementation Plan and Timetable in October 10, 2008 Public Notice
- The 30-month reconfiguration period began on October 14, 2008 and ends on April 14, 2011
- Licensees in the Canadian border regions, and licensees adjacent to the border regions that did not previously receive replacement frequencies, have now received Frequency Proposal Reports (FPRs) from the TA

	Impacted Licensees	Frequency Proposal Report (FPR) Mailings to Licensees
Non-Public Safety	160	October 2008
Public Safety	155	Nov 2008 – Feb 2009

- If you have questions about replacement frequencies, email [CanadaQuestions@800TA.org](mailto:CanadaQuestions@800TA.org)
- There has been significant progress in planning and negotiation activities by licensees in the Canadian border regions
  - 56 Planning Funding Agreements have been submitted to the TA
  - Many licensees have submitted cost estimates and are negotiating FRAs

## Border Region Update: Mexico

- The band plan for the U.S.-Mexico border region is still under development
- Subject to final plan details released by the FCC, approximately 200+ licensees *may* be subject to reconfiguration
- The FCC issued a Public Notice on March 31, 2009 that extended the negotiation period for licensees in the U.S.-Mexico border region until July 1, 2009
- Licensees should ensure the TA has their most current Point of Contact (POC) information

## Licensing of New NPSPAC Facilities

- Permanent licensing of new facilities on available channels in the new NPSPAC band (806-809/851-854 MHz) is permitted in non-border regions
- Applications require frequency coordination from a public safety frequency coordinator and a letter of concurrence from the 800 MHz Regional Planning Committee
- Pursuant to the FCC's February 10, 2009 Public Notice (DA 09-212), until rebanding is complete in a NPSPAC region, applications for new NPSPAC facilities must be submitted to the TA to verify that the requested channels are not required for rebanding purposes
  - Draft applications can be emailed to the TA for review at [AppReview@800TA.org](mailto:AppReview@800TA.org)

## STAs for Pre-Reconfiguration Frequencies

- If a licensee is filing for an STA to authorize the use of pre-reconfiguration NPSPAC frequencies (821-824 / 866-869 MHz), the STA application is filed directly with the FCC
  - Regional Planning Committee concurrence should be included with STA applications for old NPSPAC channels
  - The TA does not need to review these STA applications prior to filing, the FCC will contact the TA if necessary

For additional information, see the TA Application Review Guidance, which is available at [http://www.800TA.org/content/PDF/reconfiguration\\_materials/TA\\_App\\_Review\\_Guidance.pdf](http://www.800TA.org/content/PDF/reconfiguration_materials/TA_App_Review_Guidance.pdf)

## Frequencies Vacated by Sprint Nextel in the Interleaved Band

- The FCC released spectrum vacated by Sprint Nextel in the 854 to 854.5 MHz band in non-border areas for licensing by public safety as of January 28, 2009
- The vacated channels are exclusively available
  - To public safety entities for the first 3 years
  - To public safety and critical infrastructure industry entities for the following 2 years
- The FCC's December 29, 2008 Public Notice (DA 08-2810) describes the application and licensing procedures for these channels
- Sprint Nextel will make additional interleaved frequencies available for licensing and use in each non-border region in stages, based upon when specific thresholds of clearing of channels in the old NPSPAC band are reached in each NPSPAC region
- The TA is not involved in licensing these vacated channels. Eligible applicants can consult a qualified frequency coordinator or their attorney regarding how to apply for these vacated channels

## 800 MHz NPSPAC Regional Plans

- As a result of 800 MHz band reconfiguration, regional plans need to be amended.
  - As part of reconfiguration, NPSPAC channels are being changed from the higher end of the band to the lower end of the band. In certain Canadian border regions, licensees will not all be moving down the standard 15 MHz.
  - 800 MHz RPCs need to amend their regional plans to reflect the revised 800 MHz band plan.
- The FCC provided guidance about submission and approval of amended regional plans in a February 10, 2009 Public Notice (DA 09-212).
  - April 13, 2009 – RPCs filed amendments limited to rebanding-related changes.
  - June 10, 2009 – RPCs file amendments that combine rebanding-related changes with other substantive modifications that are not rebanding-related.
  - These deadlines apply to non-border NPSPAC regions (Waves 1-3, except Region 19: New England). NPSPAC regions in Wave 4 and Region 19 are not required to file amendments at this time.

# Implementation Planning Session (IPS)

## To date, IPS have been held in:

- California – Northern CA
- Colorado
- Florida
- Georgia
- Illinois – Chicago Metro
- Indiana
- Iowa
- Kansas
- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Minnesota
- Nebraska
- Nevada
- New England & Boston
- New Jersey
- New York – NY Metro
- North Carolina
- Oregon
- South Carolina
- Texas – Houston, Austin
- Utah

- **What is an IPS?** An IPS is a meeting scheduled by the TA to develop a comprehensive regional implementation schedule to facilitate reconfiguration in a given region.
- **Purpose:** To build a common understanding among all stakeholders of licensee interdependencies and scheduling needs. This includes identifying issues, risks, and next steps.
- **How is an IPS scheduled?** An IPS is primarily scheduled based on the number of licensees in the region that have, or are close to having, a signed FRA and are ready to reconfigure, but require schedules for channel clearing.

As part of the implementation phase of reconfiguration, the TA actively **monitors, tracks, and reports licensees' progress.**

## What can licensees expect?

- The TA will call or email licensees seeking updates to the following information:
  - Actual start and end dates
  - Duration and percentage complete of tasks
  - Number of subscriber units and sites to be retuned/replaced and number complete
  - Information about dependencies with other licensees and predecessor tasks, if applicable.
- Notification by the TA when a predecessor licensee completes a dependent task
- A forum for informing the TA of any issues, risks or factors affecting your ability to complete reconfiguration

## What do licensees need to do?

- Respond when contacted by the TA
- Prepare to provide progress updates and schedule changes
- Provide explanations for significant schedule changes or slippages so that the TA can assess the impact on your neighboring licensees, your region, and adjacent regions.
- Inform the FCC via the waiver process if there are changes to key implementation milestones
- Inform the TA of your Implementation Point of Contact (or changes to your Point of Contact)
- Understand the process and refer to the website for information ([www.800TA.org](http://www.800TA.org))

**In addition to the tasks associated with either planning or physical retuning (implementation), the Closing process for the PFA or FRA requires the fulfillment of key milestones...**

- ❑ Submit actual cost supporting documentation to Sprint Nextel – this includes but is not limited to items such as receipts, timesheets, and invoices
- ❑ Complete true-up process & sign Actual Cost Reconciliation statement
- ❑ Sign and submit to Sprint Nextel the TA's Closing Certification
- ❑ Maintain cost support documentation and records following contract closing for:
  - 24 months for PFAs
  - 18 months for FRAs

***A Reconfiguration Completion Checklist, including both physical retuning and contract closing related tasks, is available on the TA's website.***



# Q&A

## **TA Contact Information:**

Phone: 1-888-800-8220  
Website: [www.800TA.org](http://www.800TA.org)  
Email: [comments@800TA.org](mailto:comments@800TA.org)

## **Sprint Nextel Contact Information:**

Fax: 1-866-221-6990  
Email: [800MHz@Sprint.com](mailto:800MHz@Sprint.com)

## **FCC:**

Website: <http://www.fcc.gov/pshs/public-safety-spectrum/800-MHz/reconfiguration.html>