§ 90.689 Field strength limits.

(a) For purposes of implementing §§ 90.689 through 90.699, predicted 36 and 40 dB \( \mu \)V/m contours shall be calculated using Figure 10 of § 73.699 of this chapter with a correction factor of \(-9\) dB, and predicted 18 and 22 dB \( \mu \)V/m contours shall be calculated using Figure 10a of § 73.699 of this chapter with a correction factor of \(-9\) dB.

(b) The predicted or measured field strength at any location on the border of the EA-based service area for EA licensees must not exceed 40 dBuV/m unless all bordering EA licensees agree to a higher field strength. In the event that this standard conflicts with the EA licensee’s obligation to provide co-channel protection to incumbent licensees pursuant to § 90.621(b), the requirements of § 90.621(b) shall prevail.


§ 90.691 Emission mask requirements for EA-based systems.

(a) Out-of-band emission requirement shall apply only to the “outer” channels included in an EA license and to spectrum adjacent to interior channels used by incumbent licensees. The emission limits are as follows:

1. For any frequency removed from the EA licensee’s frequency block by up to and including 37.5 kHz, the power of any emission shall be attenuated below the transmitter power \( P \) in watts by at least \( 116 \log_{10}(f/6.1) \) decibels or \( 50 + 10 \log_{10}(P) \) decibels or \( 80 \) decibels, whichever is the lesser attenuation, where \( f \) is the frequency removed from the center of the outer channel in the block in kilohertz and where \( f \) is greater than 12.5 kHz.

2. For any frequency removed from the EA licensee’s frequency block greater than 37.5 kHz, the power of any emission shall be attenuated below the transmitter power \( P \) in watts by at least \( 43 + \log_{10}(P) \) decibels or \( 80 \) decibels, whichever is the lesser attenuation, where \( f \) is the frequency removed from the center of the outer channel in the block in kilohertz and where \( f \) is greater than 37.5 kHz.

(b) When an emission outside of the authorized bandwidth causes harmful interference, the Commission may, at its discretion, require greater attenuation than specified in this section.

§ 90.693 Grandfathering provisions for incumbent licensees.

(a) General provisions. These provisions apply to “incumbent licensees,” all 800 MHz licensees authorized in the 809–821/854–866 MHz band who obtained licenses or filed applications on or before December 15, 1995.

(b) Spectrum blocks A through V. An incumbent licensee’s service area shall be defined by its originally licensed 40 dBuV/m field strength contour and its interference contour shall be defined as its originally-licensed 22 dBuV/m field strength contour. The “originally-licensed” contour shall be calculated using the maximum ERP and the actual height of the antenna above average terrain (HAAT) along each radial. Incumbent licensees are permitted to add, remove or modify transmitter sites within their original 22 dBuV/m field strength contour without prior notification to the Commission so long as their original 22 dBuV/m field strength contour is not expanded. Incumbent licensee protection extends only to its 40 dBuV/m signal strength contour. Pursuant to the minor modification notification procedures set forth in 1.947(b), the incumbent licensee must notify the Commission within 30 days of any change in technical parameters for stations that are authorized under a waiver of 90.621(b)(4), or that are authorized under 90.621(b)(5).

(c) Special provisions for spectrum blocks F1 through V. Incumbent licensees that have received the consent of all affected parties or a certified frequency coordinator to utilize an 18 dBuV/m signal strength interference contour shall have their service area defined by their originally-licensed 36 dBuV/m field strength contour and their interference contour shall be defined as their originally-licensed 18 dBuV/m field strength contour. The “originally-licensed” contour shall be calculated using the maximum ERP and the actual HAAT along each radial. Incumbent licensees seeking to utilize an 18 dBuV/m signal strength interference contour shall first seek to