feeder uplinks will have to demonstrate that their systems can share with GSO FSS and NGSO MSS systems that have been authorized for operation in that band.


§ 25.259 Time sharing between NOAA meteorological satellite systems and non-voice, non-geostationary satellite systems in the 137–138 MHz band.

(a) The space stations of a non-voice, non-geostationary Mobile-Satellite Service (NVNG MSS) system time-sharing downlink spectrum in the 137–138 MHz band with National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) satellites shall not transmit signals into the “protection areas” of the NOAA satellites.

(1) With respect to transmission in the 137.333–137.367 MHz, 137.485–137.515 MHz, 137.605–137.635 MHz, and 137.753–137.787 MHz bands, the protection area for a NOAA satellite is the area on the Earth’s surface in which the NOAA satellite is in line of sight from the ground at an elevation angle of five degrees or more above the horizon. No NVNG MSS satellite shall transmit in these bands when it is in line of sight at an elevation angle of zero degrees or more from any point on the ground within a NOAA satellite’s protected area for that band.

(2) With respect to transmission in the 137.025–137.175 MHz and 137.825–138 MHz bands, the protection area for a NOAA satellite is the area on the Earth’s surface in which the NOAA satellite is in line of sight from the ground at any elevation angle above zero degrees. No NVNG MSS satellite shall transmit in these bands when it is in line of sight at a line-of-sight elevation angle of zero degrees or more from any point on the ground within a NOAA satellite’s protected area for that band.

(b) A NVNG licensee time sharing spectrum in the 137–138 MHz band shall establish a 24-hour per day contact person and telephone number so that claims of harmful interference into NOAA earth station users and other operational issues can be reported and resolved expeditiously. This contact information shall be made available to NOAA or its designee. If the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (“NTIA”) notifies the Commission that NOAA is receiving unacceptable interference from a NVNG licensee, the Commission will require such NVNG licensee to terminate its interfering operations immediately unless it demonstrates to the Commission’s reasonable satisfaction, and that of NTIA, that it is not responsible for causing harmful interference into the worldwide NOAA system. A NVNG licensee assumes the risk of any liability or damage that it and its directors, officers, employees, affiliates, agents and subcontractors may incur or suffer in connection with an interruption of its non-voice, non-geostationary mobile-satellite service, in whole or in part, arising from or relating to its compliance or noncompliance with the requirements of this paragraph (b). The Commission will not hesitate to impose sanctions on a NVNG licensee time-sharing spectrum in the 137–138 MHz band with NOAA, including monetary forfeitures and license revocations, when appropriate.

(c) Each satellite in a NVNG licensee’s system time-sharing spectrum with NOAA in the 137–138 MHz band shall automatically turn off and cease satellite transmissions if, after 72 consecutive hours, no reset signal is received from the NVNG licensee’s gateway earth station and verified by the satellite. All satellites in such NVNG licensee’s system shall be capable of instantaneous shutdown on any sub-band
§ 25.260 Time sharing between DoD meteorological satellite systems and non-voice, non-geostationary satellite systems in the 400.15–401 MHz band.

(a) The space stations of a non-voice, non-geostationary Mobile-Satellite Service (NVNG MSS) system time-sharing downlink spectrum in the 400.15–401.0 MHz band with Department of Defense (DoD) satellites shall not transmit signals into the “protection areas” of the DoD satellites.

(1) The protection area for such a DoD satellite is the area on the Earth’s surface in which the DoD satellite is in line of sight from the ground at an elevation angle of five degrees or more above the horizon.

(2) An NVNG MSS space station shall not transmit in the 400.15–401 MHz band when at a line-of-sight elevation angle of zero degrees or more from any point on the ground within the protected area of a DoD satellite operating in that band.

(3) An NVNG MSS licensee is responsible for obtaining the ephemeris data necessary for compliance with this restriction. The ephemeris information must be updated system-wide at least once per week. For calculation required for compliance with this restriction an NVNG MSS licensee shall use an orbital propagator algorithm with an accuracy equal to or greater than the NORAD propagator used by DoD.

(b) A NVNG licensee time sharing spectrum in the 400.15–401 MHz band shall establish a 24-hour per day contact person and telephone number so that claims of harmful interference into DoD earth station users and other operational issues can be reported and resolved expeditiously. This contact information shall be made available to DoD or its designee. If the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (“NTIA”) notifies the Commission and NTIA of any decrease in the time it requires to implement a DoD required frequency change, the Commission will not hesitate to impose sanctions on a NVNG licensee time-sharing spectrum in the 400.15–401 MHz band with DoD, including monetary forfeitures and license revocations, when appropriate.

(c) Each satellite in a NVNG licensee’s system time-sharing spectrum with DoD in the 400.15–401 MHz band shall automatically turn off and cease satellite transmissions if, after 72 consecutive hours, no reset signal is received from the NVNG licensee’s gateway earth station and verified by the satellite. All satellites in such NVNG licensee’s system shall be capable of instantaneous shutdown on any sub-band upon command from such NVNG licensee’s gateway earth station.

(d) Initially, a NVNG licensee time-sharing spectrum with DoD in the 400.15–401 MHz band shall be able to change the frequency on which its system satellites are operating within 125 minutes of receiving notification from a DoD required frequency change in the 400.15–401 MHz band. Thereafter, when a NVNG licensee constructs additional gateway earth stations located outside of North and South America, it shall use its best efforts to decrease to 90 minutes the time required to implement a DoD required frequency change. A NVNG licensee promptly shall notify the Commission and NTIA of any decrease in the time it requires to implement a DoD required frequency change.

(e) Once a NVNG licensee time-sharing spectrum with DoD in the 400.15–401 MHz band demonstrates to DoD that it is capable of implementing a DoD required frequency change within the time required under paragraph (d) of