

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[Report No. AUC-01-31-A (Auction No. 31); DA 01-266]

Auction of Licenses for the 747-762 and 777-792 MHz Bands Postponed Until September 12, 2001

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This document announces the postponement of the upcoming auction of licenses in the 747-762 and 777-792 MHz band (Auction No. 31), originally scheduled to begin on March 6, 2001, the new date is September 12, 2001. The Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (Bureau) believes that a brief delay is warranted to provide additional time for bidder preparation and planning.

DATES: Auction No. 31 is rescheduled to begin on September 12, 2001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Howard Davenport or Bill Huber, Auctions Legal Branch at (202) 418-0660, or Kathy Garland, Auctions Operations at (717) 338-2801.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a summary of a Public Notice released January 31, 2001 (*Auction No. 31 Postponement Public Notice*). The complete text of the *Auction No. 31 Postponement Public Notice*, including attachments, is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the FCC Reference Center (Room CY-A257), 445 12th Street, SW., Washington, DC. It may also be purchased from the Commission's copy contractor, International Transcription Services, Inc. (ITS, Inc.), 445 12th Street, SW., Room CY-B400, Washington, DC 20554, (202) 314-3070. The *Auction No. 31 Postponement Public Notice* is also available on the Internet at the Commission's web site: <http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/documents.html>.

1. On January 18, 2001, Verizon Wireless ("Verizon") submitted a letter to the Bureau requesting a postponement of Auction No. 31. Later that day, the Bureau released a *Public Notice* seeking comment on Verizon's request. The Bureau received 13 timely-filed comments in response to that *Public Notice*. A majority of commenters support a postponement of this auction, while others oppose any delay. Under the current circumstances, the Bureau believes that a brief delay is warranted to provide additional time for bidder preparation and planning and for reasons of auction administration, consistent with the Commission's

obligations under section 309(j)(3)(E) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.

2. The short-form (FCC Form 175) application filing window for Auction No. 31 is now closed. Any applications that were in the system are deemed ineffective and will be purged from the system. The new schedule is as follows:

- *Filing Deadline for FCC Form 175:* August 17, 2001; 6:00 PM ET.
- *Auction Start Date:* September 12, 2001.

The Bureau will announce other pre-auction deadlines in a subsequent public notice.

Federal Communications Commission.

Margaret Wiener,

Deputy Chief, Auctions & Industry Analysis Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau.

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

[DA 01-188]

Process To Update the International Bureau's Records for Carriers That Provide International Telecommunications Services

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This document announces the start of a 90-day process to update the International Bureau's records for carriers that provide international telecommunications services and operators of international telecommunications facilities. This action will ensure that carriers have obtained the necessary authorizations to provide international telecommunications services.

DATES: The 90-day period commences on May 7, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Federal Communications Commission, Secretary, 445 12th Street, SW., Room TW-B204F, Washington, DC 20554.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Rebecca Arbogast, International Bureau, (202) 418-1460.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Released January 30, 2001.

1. The International Bureau has received a number of requests for *nunc pro tunc* approval of belatedly filed applications for authority to provide international telecommunications services under Section 214 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended. The International Bureau also

has received requests for *nunc pro tunc* approval of other belatedly filed applications; specifically, requests for authority to assign or transfer control of existing international Section 214 authorizations, and to assign or transfer control of common carrier and non-common carrier submarine cable landing licenses. These requests suggest that there may be some carriers providing international telecommunications services, or operators operating international telecommunications facilities, without proper authority.

2. In light of this, and particularly in light of the fact that the Commission has streamlined its rules as competition in international markets has developed, the International Bureau is taking steps to ensure that international carriers and operators are in compliance with the rules and that its records regarding authorized carriers and operators are current and accurate. Timely filed applications and accurate records will serve the public interest and protect consumers by ensuring that the Commission has the information necessary to enforce its rules, regulations and policies governing carriers and operators that provide U.S. international service. Accordingly, the International Bureau is announcing the commencement of a 90-day period during which carriers are encouraged to apply for necessary authorizations. The International Bureau does not expect to initiate enforcement action against these carriers and operators during this 90-day period. At the end of the 90-day period, the International Bureau will refer cases of noncompliance to the Enforcement Bureau for appropriate enforcement action.

Authorization and Licensing Requirements

3. The Commission's authorization and licensing requirements for carriers providing international telecommunications services and operators of international telecommunications facilities include the following:

Section 214 Authorizations: Common carriers seeking to provide international telecommunications services or to construct, acquire, or operate international telecommunications facilities must seek from the Commission an authorization pursuant to Section 214 of the Communications Act. In addition, § 63.18 of the Commission's rules provides, in pertinent part, that:

Except as otherwise provided in this part, any party seeking authority pursuant to Section 214 of the Communications Act of