

in the context of a rulemaking proceeding on the status of DPDs.

Conclusion

The advent of new means of digitally delivering record music to consumers presents new challenges and questions to the interpretation and application of the section 115 license. Some of these new means, as described by the parties seeking action from the Copyright Office, are discussed above. There may be others, existing or contemplated. We also invite comment on whether there are other technologies and services whose existence might affect our interpretation and application of section 115.

Dated: March 6, 2001.

David O. Carson,

General Counsel.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Parts 52 and 81

[UT-001-0022b, UT-001-0024b, UT-001-0025b, UT-001-0026b, UT-001-0027b, UT-001-0030b, UT-001-0031b; FRL-6889-1]

Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; State of Utah; Ogden City Carbon Monoxide Redesignation to Attainment, Designation of Areas for Air Quality Planning Purposes, and Approval of Revisions to the Oxygenated Gasoline Program

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: On December 9, 1996, the Governor of Utah submitted a request to redesignate the Ogden City "moderate" carbon monoxide (CO) nonattainment area to attainment for the CO National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS). The Governor also submitted a CO maintenance plan. In addition, on July 8, 1998, the Governor submitted revisions to Utah's Rule R307-8 "Oxygenated Gasoline Program". In this action, EPA is proposing approval of the Ogden City CO redesignation request, the maintenance plan, and the revisions to Rule R307-8. In the Final Rules Section of this **Federal Register**, EPA is approving the State's redesignation request and State Implementation Plan (SIP) revisions, involving the maintenance plan and the changes to Rule R307-8, as a direct final rule without prior proposal because the

Agency views the redesignation and SIP revisions as noncontroversial and anticipates no adverse comments. A detailed rationale for the approval is set forth in the direct final rule. If no adverse comments are received in response to this proposed rule, no further activity is contemplated in relation to this rule. If EPA receives adverse comments, the direct final rule will be withdrawn and all public comments received will be addressed in a subsequent final rule based on this proposed rule. EPA will not institute a second comment period on this action. Any parties interested in commenting on this action should do so at this time.

DATES: Comments on this proposed rule must be received in writing by April 9, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Written comments may be mailed to: Richard R. Long, Director, Air and Radiation Program, Mailcode 8P-AR, United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region VIII, 999 18th Street, Suite 300, Denver, Colorado 80202-2466.

Copies of the documents relevant to this action are available for public inspection between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday at the following office: United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region VIII, Air Program, 999 18th Street, Suite 300, Denver, Colorado 80202-2466.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tim Russ, Air and Radiation Program, Mailcode 8P-AR, United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region VIII, 999 18th Street, Suite 300, Denver, Colorado 80202-2466; Telephone number (303) 312-6479.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: See the information provided in the Direct Final action of the same title which is located in the Rules section of this **Federal Register**.

Dated: October 4, 2000.

William P. Yellowtail,

Regional Administrator, Region VIII.

[FR Doc. 01-5853 Filed 3-8-01; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

40 CFR Parts 52 and 81

[MN61-01-7286b; MN62-01-7287b; FRL-6901-2]

Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Minnesota Designation of Areas for Air Quality Planning Purposes; Minnesota

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: We are proposing to approve a State Implementation Plan (SIP) revision for Olmsted County, Minnesota, for the control of emissions of sulfur dioxide (SO₂) in the city of Rochester. The Environmental Protection Agency is also proposing to approve the State's request to redesignate the Rochester nonattainment area to attainment of the SO₂ National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). In conjunction with these actions, EPA is also proposing to approve the maintenance plan for the city of Rochester, Olmsted County nonattainment area, which was submitted to ensure that attainment of the NAAQS will be maintained. The SIP revision, redesignation request and maintenance plan were submitted by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency on November 4, 1998, and are approvable because they satisfy the requirements of the Clean Air Act. In the final rules section of this **Federal Register**, we are conditionally approving the SIP revision as a direct final rule without prior proposal, because we view this as a noncontroversial revision amendment and anticipate no adverse comments. A detailed rationale for the approval is set forth in the direct final rule. If no adverse comments are received in response to this proposed rule, no further activity is contemplated in relation to this proposed rule. If we receive adverse comments, the direct final rule will be withdrawn and all public comments received will be addressed in a subsequent final rule based on this proposed rule. We will not institute a second comment period on this action. Any parties interested in commenting on this action should do so at this time.

DATES: Comments on this proposed action must be received by April 9, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Written comments should be sent to: Carlton T. Nash, Chief, Regulation Development Section, Air Programs Branch (AR-18J), EPA Region 5, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois 60604-3590.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Christos Panos, Regulation Development Section, Air Programs Branch (AR-18J), EPA Region 5, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois 60604, (312) 353-8328.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: For additional information, see the Direct Final notice which is located in the Rules section of this **Federal Register**. Copies of the request and the EPA's

analysis are available for inspection at the above address. (Please telephone Christos Panos at (312) 353-8328 before visiting the Region 5 Office.)

Authority: 42 U.S.C. 7401 *et seq.*

Dated: October 27, 2000.

Gary Gulezian,

Acting Regional Administrator, Region 5.

[FR Doc. 01-5851 Filed 3-8-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-P

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

47 CFR Parts 1 and 22

[WT Docket No. 01-32; FCC 01-36]

Implementation of Competitive Bidding Rules To License Certain Rural Service Areas

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: In this document, we propose rules for awarding licenses for four cellular rural service areas (RSAs) that remain unlicensed because the initial lottery winner was disqualified or otherwise withdrew its application. Specifically, we propose competitive bidding rules for these licenses and seek comment on our proposals.

DATES: Comments are due on or before March 19, 2001 and reply comments are due on or before April 3, 2001.

ADDRESSES: Federal Communications Commission, 445 12th St., SW., Washington, DC 20554.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Katherine M. Harris, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Commercial Wireless Division at (202) 418-0609.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This is a summary of the Federal Communications Commission's Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM), FCC 01-36, in WT Docket No. 01-32, adopted on January 31, 2001, and released on February 12, 2001. The full text of this NPRM is available for inspection and copying during normal business hours in the FCC Reference Center, Room CY-A257, 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20554. The complete text may be purchased from the Commission's copy contractor, International Transcription Service, Inc., 1231 20th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20037. The full text may also be downloaded at: <http://www.fcc.gov>. Alternative formats are available to persons with disabilities by contacting

Martha Contee at (202) 418-0260 or TTY (202) 418-2555.

Synopsis of Notice of Proposed Rule Making

I. Introduction

1. In this Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM), we propose rules for awarding licenses for four cellular Rural Service Areas (RSAs) that remain unlicensed because the initial lottery winner was disqualified or has otherwise withdrawn its application. Under the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 (1997 Budget Act), we are now required, with certain exceptions not applicable here, to resolve mutually exclusive applications for initial licenses by competitive bidding. Balanced Budget Act of 1997, Public Law 105-33, section 3002(a), 111 Stat. 251, at 258-60 (1997). We propose to: (1) Allow all eligible parties to apply for these initial licenses; and (2) license these markets on an RSA basis under our Part 22 rules. As discussed below, we also propose to use our Part 1 competitive bidding rules to auction these licenses.

II. Background

2. The Commission has been awarding cellular licenses since 1982. Although we awarded the first thirty Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) licenses pursuant to comparative hearing rules, we adopted rules in 1984 to award the remaining cellular MSA and RSA licenses through lotteries. By 1991, lotteries had been held for every MSA and RSA, and licenses were awarded to the lottery winners in most instances. In some RSA markets, however, the initial RSA license was never awarded.

3. On August 5, 1997, President Clinton signed the 1997 Budget Act into law, which modified the Commission's auction authority by amending Section 309(j) of the Communications Act to require that all mutually exclusive applications for initial licenses or construction permits be auctioned, with certain exceptions not applicable here. 1997 Budget Act, Public Law 105-33, section 3002(a), 111 Stat. 251, 258-60 (1997) (amending 47 U.S.C. 309(j)). The 1997 Budget Act expressly repealed Section 6002(e) of the 1993 Budget Act, *id.* at Section 3002(a)(4), and terminated the Commission's authority to award licenses through random selection, even in the case of applications filed prior to July 26, 1993, except for licenses for noncommercial educational and public broadcast stations. *Id.* at Section 3002(a)(2)(B). Because the 1997 Budget Act terminated the Commission's remaining lottery authority, the

Commission's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau dismissed all pending RSA lottery applications by separate orders released April 2, 1999, and April 29, 1999. *See Certain Cellular Rural Service Area Applications, Order, 14 FCC Rcd 4619 (1999); Certain Cellular Rural Service Area Applications in Market Nos. 599A and 672A, Order, DA 99-814 (rel. Apr. 29, 1999).*

III. Discussion

4. We propose to allow all eligible applicants to apply for licenses for the four remaining unlicensed cellular RSAs. Further, we propose to license these markets on an RSA basis, subject to the same construction and operational rules as previously licensed RSAs. Finally, if there are mutually exclusive applications for these markets, we propose to use the general competitive bidding rules set forth in Part 1, Subpart Q, of the Commission's rules to conduct the auction. We seek comment on these issues, which we address in greater detail below.

A. Eligibility for Licenses

5. We propose to allow all eligible entities and persons to apply for the licenses at issue in this proceeding. Our competitive bidding program seeks to award each license to the applicant who values it most highly, as determined by the marketplace, and who is therefore most likely to offer valued service to the public. To the extent that former lottery applicants continue to have an interest in applying for these markets, open eligibility allows them to do so. We therefore tentatively conclude that it would be in the public interest to permit all eligible entities to participate in an RSA auction. We seek comment on this proposal.

6. In all of the four unlicensed RSAs, the Commission has granted interim operating authority (IOA) to one or more cellular operators to provide cellular service on the Channel A block pending the ultimate permanent licensing of these RSAs. We propose to permit current IOA holders to participate in the auction of licenses for the unlicensed RSAs on an equal basis with other applicants. We also note that under the terms of each of the existing IOAs, the IOA operator must cease operations immediately upon initiation of service by the new licensee, provided that the new licensee gives at least 30 days written notice of its intent to provide service. In order to prevent unnecessary interruption of service to existing cellular customers, we propose that, in the event that any of the current IOA holders do not obtain the RSA license