

**§ 22.567 Technical channel assignment criteria.**

The rules in this section establish technical assignment criteria for the channels listed in § 22.561. The criteria in paragraphs (a) through (f) of this section permit channel assignments to be made in a manner such that reception by public mobile receivers of signals from base transmitters, within the service area of such base transmitters, is protected from interference caused by the operation of independent co-channel base and fixed transmitters in the Paging and Radiotelephone Service and central office stations, including Basic Exchange Telephone Radio Systems (BETRS), in the Rural Radiotelephone Service. Additional criteria in paragraph (g) of this section permit channel assignments to be made in a manner such that BETRS communications are protected from interference caused by the operation of independent co-channel base and fixed transmitters in the Paging and Radiotelephone Service and other central office stations in the Rural Radiotelephone Service. Separate criteria in paragraph (h) of this section apply only to assignment of the channels designated in § 22.561 as mobile channels to base and fixed transmitters, and permit these channel assignments to be made in a manner such that reception by public base and fixed receivers of signals from associated mobile and fixed transmitters is protected from interference caused by the operation of independent co-channel base and fixed transmitters.

(a) *Contour overlap.* The FCC may grant an application requesting assignment of a channel to a proposed base, fixed or central office station transmitter only if:

(1) The interfering contour of the proposed transmitter does not overlap the service contour of any protected co-channel transmitter controlled by a carrier other than the applicant, unless that carrier has agreed in writing to accept any interference that may result from operation of the proposed transmitter; and

(2) The service contour of the proposed transmitter does not overlap the interfering contour of any protected co-channel transmitter controlled by a carrier other than the applicant, unless

the application contains a statement that the applicant agrees to accept any interference that may result from operation of the protected co-channel transmitter; and

(3) The area and/or population to which service would be provided by the proposed transmitter is substantial, and service gained would exceed that lost as a result of agreements to accept interference.

(b) *Protected transmitter.* For the purposes of this section, protected transmitters are authorized transmitters for which there is a current FCC public record and transmitters proposed in prior-filed pending applications, in the Paging and Radiotelephone Service and the Rural Radiotelephone Service.

(c) *VHF service contour.* For base stations transmitting on the VHF channels, the radial distance from the transmitting antenna to the service contour along each cardinal radial is calculated as follows:

$$d = 1.609 \times h^{0.40} \times p^{0.20}$$

where:

d is the radial distance in kilometers  
h is the radial antenna HAAT in meters  
p is the radial ERP in Watts

(1) Whenever the actual HAAT is less than 30 meters (98 feet), 30 must be used as the value for h in the above formula.

(2) The value used for p in the above formula must not be less than 27 dB less than the maximum ERP in any direction, or 0.1 Watt, whichever is more.

(3) The distance from the transmitting antenna to the service contour along any radial other than the eight cardinal radials is routinely calculated by linear interpolation of distance as a function of angle. However, in resolving petitions to deny, the FCC may calculate the distance to the service contour using the formula in paragraph (c) of this section with actual HAAT and ERP data for the inter-station radial and additional radials above and below the inter-station radial at 2.5° intervals.

(d) *VHF interfering contour.* For base and fixed stations transmitting on the VHF channels, the radial distance from the transmitting antenna to the interfering contour along each cardinal radial is calculated as follows:

(1) If the radial antenna HAAT is less than 150 meters:

$$d=8.577 \times h^{0.24} \times p^{0.19}$$

where:

d is the radial distance in kilometers  
h is the radial antenna HAAT in meters  
p is the radial ERP in Watts

Whenever the actual HAAT is less than 30 meters (98 feet), 30 must be used as the value for h in the above formula.

(2) If the radial antenna HAAT is 150 meters or more:

$$d=12.306 \times h^{0.23} \times p^{0.14}$$

where:

d is the radial distance in kilometers  
h is the radial antenna HAAT in meters  
p is the radial ERP in Watts

(3) The value used for p in the above formulas must not be less than 27 dB less than the maximum ERP in any direction, or 0.1 Watt, whichever is more.

(4) The distance from the transmitting antenna to the interfering contour along any radial other than the eight cardinal radials is routinely calculated by linear interpolation of distance as a function of angle. However, in resolving petitions to deny, the FCC may calculate the distance to the interfering contour using the appropriate formula in paragraph (d) of this section with actual HAAT and ERP data for the inter-station radial and additional radials above and below the inter-station radial at 2.5° intervals.

(e) *UHF service contour.* For base stations transmitting on the UHF channels, the radial distance from the transmitting antenna to the service contour along each cardinal radial is calculated as follows:

$$d=1.726 \times h^{0.35} \times p^{0.18}$$

where:

d is the radial distance in kilometers  
h is the radial antenna HAAT in meters  
p is the radial ERP in Watts

(1) Whenever the actual HAAT is less than 30 meters (98 feet), 30 must be used as the value for h in the above formula.

(2) The value used for p in the above formula must not be less than 27 dB less than the maximum ERP in any direction, or 0.1 Watt, whichever is more.

(3) The distance from the transmitting antenna to the service contour along any radial other than the eight cardinal radials is routinely calculated by linear interpolation of distance as a function of angle. However, in resolving petitions to deny, the FCC may calculate the distance to the service contour using the formula in paragraph (e) of this section with actual HAAT and ERP data for the inter-station radial and addition radials above and below the below the inter-station radial at 2.5° intervals.

(f) *UHF interfering contour.* For base and fixed stations transmitting on the UHF channels, the radial distance from the transmitting antenna to the interfering contour along each cardinal radial is calculated as follows:

(1) If the radial antenna HAAT is less than 150 meters:

$$d=9.471 \times h^{0.23} \times p^{0.15}$$

where:

d is the radial distance in kilometers  
h is the radial antenna HAAT in meters  
p is the radial ERP in Watts

Whenever the actual HAAT is less than 30 meters (98 feet), 30 must be used as the value for h in the above formula.

(2) If the radial antenna HAAT is 150 meters or more:

$$d=6.336 \times h^{0.31} \times p^{0.15}$$

where:

d is the radial distance in kilometers  
h is the radial antenna HAAT in meters  
p is the radial ERP in Watts

(3) The value used for p in the above formula must not be less than 27 dB less than the maximum ERP in any direction, or 0.1 Watt, whichever is more.

(4) The distance from the transmitting antenna to the interfering contour along any radial other than the eight cardinal radials is routinely calculated by linear interpolation of distance as a function of angle. However, in resolving petitions to deny, the FCC may calculate the distance to the interfering contour using the appropriate formula in paragraph (f) of this section with actual HAAT and ERP data for the inter-station radial and additional radials above and below the inter-station radial at 2.5° intervals.

(g) *Protection for BETRS.* In applying the provisions of paragraph (a) of this section, if either or both of the transmitters involved is a BETRS central office station, the following contour substitutions must be used:

(1) The service contour of the BETRS central office station(s) is a circle, centered on the central office station antenna, with a radius of 40 kilometers (25 miles).

(2) The interfering contour of any station of any type, when determining whether it would overlap the service contour of a BETRS central office station, is calculated as follows:

$$d=36.364 \times h^{0.2} \times p^{0.1}$$

where:

d is the radial distance in kilometers  
h is the radial antenna HAAT in meters  
p is the radial ERP in Watts

Whenever the actual HAAT is less than 30 meters (98 feet), 30 must be used as the value for h in the above formula. The value used for p in the above formula must not be less than 27 dB less than the maximum ERP in any direction, or 0.1 Watt, whichever is more.

(h) *Assignment of mobile channels to base or fixed transmitters.* Mobile channels may be assigned to base or fixed transmitters if the following criteria are met:

(1) The paired base channel, as designated in § 22.561, is assigned to base transmitters in the same geographical area operated by the same licensee.

(2) The authorization is granted subject to the condition that no interference be caused to fixed receivers in use on or prior to the date of the grant.

**§ 22.569 Additional channel policies.**

The rules in this section govern the processing of applications for a mobile channel when the applicant has applied or been granted an authorization for other mobile channels in the same geographic area. This section applies to applications proposing to use the channels listed in § 22.561, except applications that propose to use these channels to provide paging service only, which are subject to § 22.539, instead of this section. The general policy of the FCC is to assign no more than two channels in an area to a carrier per application cycle. That is, a carrier must

apply for no more than two channels, receive the authorization, construct the station, provide service to subscribers, and notify the FCC of commencement of service to subscribers (FCC Form 489) before applying for additional mobile channels in that area.

(a) *Transmitters in same area.* Any transmitter on any channel listed in § 22.561 is considered to be in the same geographic area as another transmitter or any other channel listed in § 22.561 if:

(1) One transmitter location is within the service area of the other transmitter; or,

(2) The area within the overlap of the service contours of the two transmitters constitutes 50 percent or more of the service area of either of the transmitters.

(b) *Initial channel.* The FCC will not assign more than two channels for new stations. Stations are considered to be new if there are no authorized transmitters on any channel listed in § 22.561 controlled by the applicant in the same geographic area.

(c) *Additional channel.* Applications for transmitters to be located in the same geographic area as an authorized station controlled by the applicant, but to operate on a different channel, are considered as requests for an additional channel for the authorized station, unless paragraph (d) of this section applies.

(d) *Additional transmitters on same channel.* Notwithstanding other provisions of this section, the following applications are not considered to be requests for an additional channel:

(1) Applications for transmitters to be located in the same geographic area as an authorized station controlled by the applicant, and to operate on the same paging channel;

(2) Applications for transmitters to be located within a paging geographic area for which the applicant holds the paging geographic area authorization for the requested channel; and,

(3) Applications for paging geographic area authorizations.

(e) [Reserved]

(f) *Dismissal of application constituting cumulative request for more than two channels.* If the FCC receives an application for a transmitter to be located