

## § 90.687

(d) An EA licensee's failure to meet the population coverage requirements of paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section, will result in forfeiture of the entire EA license. Forfeiture of the EA license, however, would not result in the loss of any constructed facilities authorized to the licensee prior to the date of the commencement of the auction for the EA licenses.

[62 FR 41216, July 31, 1997]

## § 90.687 Special provisions regarding assignments and transfers of authorizations for incumbent SMR licenses in the 806-821/851-866 MHz band.

An SMR license initially authorized on any of the channels listed in Table 4A of § 90.617 of this part may transfer or assign its channel(s) to another entity subject to the provisions of § 1.948 of this chapter and § 90.609(b) of this part. If the proposed transferee or assignee is the EA licensee for the spectrum block to which the channel is allocated, such transfer or assignment presumptively will be deemed to be in the public interest. However, such presumption will be rebuttable.

[62 FR 41216, July 31, 1997, as amended at 63 FR 68970, Dec. 14, 1998]

## § 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 dB $\mu$ V/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.

[61 FR 6158, 6159, Feb. 16, 1996, as amended at 62 FR 41216, July 31, 1997]

## 47 CFR Ch. I (10-1-04 Edition)

## § 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  $116 \text{ Log}_{10}(f/6.1)$  decibels or  $50 + 10 \text{ Log}_{10}(P)$  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  $43 + 10 \text{ Log}_{10}(P)$  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 806-821/851-866 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 dB $\mu$ V/m field strength contour and its interference contour shall be defined as its originally-licensed 22 dB $\mu$ V/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 dB $\mu$ V/m

field strength contour without prior notification to the Commission so long as their original 22 dB $\mu$ V/m field strength contour is not expanded and the station complies with the Commission's short-spacing criteria in §§ 90.621(b)(4) through 90.621(b)(6). Incumbent licensee protection extends only to its 40 dB $\mu$ V/m signal strength contour. Pursuant to the minor modification notification procedure set forth in 1.947(b), the incumbent licensee must notify the Commission within 30 days of any changes in technical parameters or additional stations constructed that fall within the short-spacing criteria. See 47 CFR 90.621(b).

(c) *Special provisions for spectrum blocks D through V.* Incumbent licensees that have received the consent of all affected parties or a certified frequency coordinator to utilize an 18 dB $\mu$ V/m signal strength interference contour shall have their service area defined by their originally-licensed 36 dB $\mu$ V/m field strength contour and their interference contour shall be defined as their originally-licensed 18 dB $\mu$ V/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 dB $\mu$ V/m signal strength interference contour shall first seek to obtain the consent of affected co-channel incumbents. When the consent of a co-channel licensee is withheld, an incumbent licensee may submit to any certified frequency coordinator an engineering study showing that interference will not occur, together with proof that the incumbent licensee has sought consent. Incumbent licensees are permitted to add, remove or modify transmitter sites within their original 18 dB $\mu$ V/m field strength contour without prior notification to the Commission so long as their original 18 dB $\mu$ V/m field strength contour is not expanded and the station complies with the Commission's short-spacing criteria in §§ 90.621(b)(4) through 90.621(b)(6). Incumbent licensee protection extends only to its 36 dB $\mu$ V/m signal strength contour. Pursuant to the minor modification notification procedure set forth in 1.947(b), the incumbent licensee must notify the Commission within 30 days of any changes in

technical parameters or additional stations constructed that fall within the short-spacing criteria. See 47 CFR 90.621(b).

(d) *Consolidated license—(1) Spectrum blocks A through V.* Incumbent licensees operating at multiple sites may, after grant of EA licenses has been completed, exchange multiple site licenses for a single license, authorizing operations throughout the contiguous and overlapping 40 dB $\mu$ V/m field strength contours of the multiple sites. Incumbents exercising this license exchange option must submit specific information on Form 601 for each of their external base sites after the close of the 800 MHz SMR auction. The incumbent's geographic license area is defined by the contiguous and overlapping 22 dB $\mu$ V/m contours of its constructed and operational external base stations and interior sites that are constructed within the construction period applicable to the incumbent. Once the geographic license is issued, facilities that are added within an incumbent's existing footprint and that are not subject to prior approval by the Commission will not be subject to construction requirements.

(2) *Special Provisions for Spectrum Blocks D through V.* Incumbent licensees that have received the consent of all affected parties or a certified frequency coordinator to utilize an 18 dB $\mu$ V/m signal strength interference contour operating at multiple sites may, after grant of EA licenses has been completed, exchange multiple site licenses for a single license. This single site license will authorize operations throughout the contiguous and overlapping 36 dB $\mu$ V/m field strength contours of the multiple sites. Incumbents exercising this license exchange option must submit specific information on Form 601 for each of their external base sites after the close of the 800 SMR auction. The incumbent's geographic license area is defined by the contiguous and overlapping 18 dB $\mu$ V/m contours of its constructed and operational external base stations and interior sites that are constructed within the construction period applicable to the incumbent. Once the geographic license is issued, facilities that are added within an incumbent's existing

footprint and that are not subject to prior approval by the Commission will not be subject to construction requirements.

[64 FR 71055, Dec. 20, 1999]

**§ 90.699 Transition of the upper 200 channels in the 800 MHz band to EA licensing.**

In order to facilitate provision of service throughout an EA, an EA licensee may relocate incumbent licensees in its EA by providing “comparable facilities” on other frequencies in the 800 MHz band. Such relocation is subject to the following provisions:

(a) EA licensees may negotiate with incumbent licensees as defined in § 90.693 operating on frequencies in Spectrum Blocks A, B, and C for the purpose of agreeing to terms under which the incumbents would relocate their operations to other frequencies in the 800 MHz band, or alternatively, would accept a sharing arrangement with the EA licensee that may result in an otherwise impermissible level of interference to the incumbent licensee’s operations. EA licensees may also negotiate agreements for relocation of the incumbents’ facilities within Spectrum Blocks A, B or C in which all interested parties agree to the relocation of the incumbent’s facilities elsewhere within these bands. “All interested parties” includes the incumbent licensee, the EA licensee requesting and paying for the relocation, and any EA licensee of the spectrum to which the incumbent’s facilities are to be relocated.

(b) The relocation mechanism consists of two phases that must be completed before an EA licensee may proceed to request the involuntary relocation of an incumbent licensee.

(1) *Voluntary negotiations.* There is a one year voluntary period during which an EA licensee and an incumbent may negotiate any mutually agreeable relocation agreement. The Commission will announce the commencement of the first phase voluntary period by Public Notice. EA licensees must notify incumbents operating on frequencies included in their spectrum block of their intention to relocate such incumbents within 90 days of the release of the Public Notice that commences the voluntary negotiation pe-

riod. Failure on the part of the EA licensee to notify the incumbent licensee during this 90 period of its intention to relocate the incumbent will result in the forfeiture of the EA licensee’s right to request involuntary relocation of the incumbent at any time in the future.

(2) *Mandatory negotiations.* If no agreement is reached by the end of the voluntary period, a one-year mandatory negotiation period will begin during which both the EA licensee and the incumbent must negotiate in “good faith.” Failure on the part of the EA licensee to negotiate in good faith during this mandatory period will result in the forfeiture of the EA licensee’s right to request involuntary relocation of the incumbent at any time in the future.

(c) *Involuntary relocation procedures.* If no agreement is reached during either the voluntary or mandatory negotiating periods, the EA licensee may request involuntary relocation of the incumbent’s system. In such a situation, the EA licensee must:

(1) Guarantee payment of relocation costs, including all engineering, equipment, site and FCC fees, as well as any legitimate and prudent transaction expenses incurred by the incumbent licensee that are directly attributable to an involuntary relocation, subject to a cap of two percent of the hard costs involved. Hard costs are defined as the actual costs associated with providing a replacement system, such as equipment and engineering expenses. EA licensees are not required to pay incumbent licensees for internal resources devoted to the relocation process. EA licensees are not required to pay for transaction costs incurred by incumbent licensees during the voluntary or mandatory periods once the involuntary period is initiated, or for fees that cannot be legitimately tied to the provision of comparable facilities;

(2) Complete all activities necessary for implementing the replacement facilities, including engineering and cost analysis of the relocation procedure and, if radio facilities are used, identifying and obtaining, on the incumbents’ behalf, new frequencies and frequency coordination; and