

NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE
Super Bowl and related events, January 7 through February 10, 2013
Special Temporary Authorization Request

This STA request will facilitate the operation of the NFL Super Bowl® at and near the Mercedes Benz Superdome Stadium in New Orleans, Louisiana and the operations and logistics of arrangements before and briefly after this extremely large scale sporting event. This year, the Super Bowl will occur on February 3, 2013. This year, it is necessary to start the STA operations well in advance of the Super Bowl event on January 7, because the uses of the frequencies sought by this STA include security and operational communications used in converting the regular football stadium venue into the Super Bowl venue: work that begins on or about January 2, 2013.

The STA proposes the use of television broadcast channels 14 (470-476 MHz), 16 and 17 (482-494 MHz) and 19 and 20 (500-512 MHz) except for guard band segments of 250 kHz at the low and high ends of each channel or channel pair to protect adjacent-channel digital broadcast television operations in the New Orleans metro area. The location of the major events associated with the Super Bowl are all well within a 20-mile radius of Mercedes Benz Superdome Stadium in New Orleans, Louisiana. The coordinates of the Mercedes Benz Superdome Stadium, where the game will be played, are as follows: 29-57-02N, 090-04-51W.

Similar STA grants have been made by the Commission in past years (See, e.g. WB9XOU, file numbers 0496-EX-ST-2003 and 0002-EX-ST-2005; WC9XUY, file number 0901-EX-ST-2006; WD9XBT, file number 0510-EX-ST-2007; WD9XQM, file numbers 0602-EX-ST-2008, and 0524-EX-ST-2009; and WE9XQR, file numbers 0602-EX-ST-2010 and 0795-EX-ST-2011).

All operation will be coordinated in advance, as are all radio frequency operations in and around these events, by the frequency coordinators of the Society of Broadcast Engineers in the New Orleans broadcast market, and on site by the NFL Frequency Organization Group of the National Football League.

An engineering study by Engineer Karl Voss shows that there are no television, land mobile or other licensees authorized to use television channels 14, 19 or 20 within a 195 km radius of the standard coordinates for the Mercedes Benz Superdome Stadium with the following exceptions: The Commission's database shows a licensed low power television on channel 14, KPBN-LP located 115 km from the Stadium. Engineering calculations show that operations proposed in this STA will create no interference with reception of KPBN-LP within the service area of that station. There is an outstanding construction permit on channel 19 (W19EB-D) located 123 km from the Stadium, and a licensed Class A television station (KZUP-CD) located 122 km from the Stadium. It is therefore believed that operation pursuant to this STA will not cause interference to over-the-air television viewers on Channels 14, 19 or 20.

As to Channels 16 and 17, which are reserved in the New Orleans area of the Gulf Coast for communications to offshore oil rigs, the Commission's database shows only three narrowband licenses issued in the entirety of that 12 MHz of spectrum. The channels in use are 490.2375 MHz (WPNU755) located 133 km away, 484.075 MHz (WIH691) located 118 km away, and 484.125 MHz (WPYY590) located 68-90 km away. It is proposed that the NFL will not make any use of these three channels which will be protected in the NFL Frequency Organization Group database on site. On the assumption that these are duplex channels, the corresponding frequencies for the pair based on normal 3 or 5 MHz channels splits will also be protected.

The instant STA application specifies a maximum of 250 units to be deployed, but the number will likely be less than 250. That maximum number of units was granted by the Commission in previous years for the Super Bowl.

The active participation at the event by the NFL Frequency Organization Group, headed by Mr. Ralph Beaver, has avoided RF interference complaints at the past 15 Super Bowls through active, advance and real-time, on-site frequency coordination. The participation of the SBE frequency coordinator for the New Orleans broadcast market will insure that there is no interference in that broadcast market at this upcoming event. Any interference that cannot be immediately resolved will result in cessation of operation of the affected mobile operations on site.

Mr. Beaver's contact information on-site is 813-376-1313. Otherwise, any information can be obtained from counsel for the applicant:

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