From: Matthew Johnson

To: Doug Young
Date: February 16, 2017

Subject: Request for Info - STA File #0203-EX-ST-2017

Message:

Good afternoon Doug,

I apologize for my vague phrasing-- I was not sure how much detail to provide in the online text box. This is my first time applying for an FCC license myself (I have worked at companies before where the licensing itself was handled by a colleague).

By "allow our research to continue," I mean to say that we (the research group) have been working towards the development of software over the last 5 months to decrease the cost and complexity of running cellular networks in emerging regions where backhaul and power are unreliable. We are a new research group in the Washington area-- our principle investigator (cc'd) just started here last fall, coming from Berkeley and Facebook where he had an experimental GSM license through those organizations. To date we have not done any testing of the actual RF components of the system, instead focusing on the backend software for linking towers together, handling partitions of the network, and handling user data. We are at a point where we would like to begin end to end system testing, but are blocked on the acquisition of a license to run a test network.

We started the process of getting a long term license for the research group last November, but I did not realize that we would not be notified via email when the license status changed and that I needed to be checking the website. We only discovered last week after explicitly checking the application status that our previous application had been promptly denied due to the website not being ready. We contacted Anthony Serafini, who indicated that if we needed to get a license soon, that we should pursue one through the classic experimental license or STA channels. We elected to apply via the STA channel for this one individual experiment while we sorted out the best approach to license our research group in the long term. I set the start date as today not expecting to be immediately granted a license and start transmitting today, but rather to indicate that we are ready for testing and would like to start as soon as a license can be processed. I will update the field for 15 days from today in the application.

I have had a lot of trouble finding up to date information about which license I should be applying for given our research group's goals and what information I should put in different parts of the application. I apologize for any headache I am causing-- if there is documentation or an example application anywhere that can help me get you the right information please direct me to it. I appreciate your patience-- let me know if there is any other information I can provide or anything else I should update to help clarify our application!

With Gratitude,
-Matt Johnson

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