

Explanation of Experiment

AT&T Wireless PCS, LLC (“AT&T Wireless”) is the licensee of, or has direct control over, more than 30 Wireless Communications Services (“WCS”) licenses.² AT&T Wireless is in the process of developing equipment which can be used for various fixed wireless voice and data services using WCS spectrum. By this application, AT&T Wireless seeks an experimental license which will help it develop equipment and services for ultimate deployment in the marketplace. The system which AT&T Wireless intends on testing is a two-way system consisting of base stations which communicate with “remote units.”³

Initially, AT&T Wireless will utilize the experimental authorization to conduct tests of design stage equipment in a variety of actual operating environments. Tests in this phase of the experimental program will involve evaluation of propagation of RF signals in the WCS band in a number of different environments. As noted above, AT&T Wireless has numerous WCS authorizations throughout the United States and, accordingly, its equipment will be deployed in various locations, various terrains, and will be subject to various climates and atmospheric conditions.

AT&T Wireless also seeks authority to conduct limited market studies pursuant to Section 5.93 of the Commission’s rules. Market studies will include but not be limited to, the use of equipment having different “form factors” to determine if potential users prefer one form factor over another. In addition, AT&T Wireless will use the experimental license to help determine customer acceptability of a variety of fixed wireless voice and data services and mixes of packages of such services, including various price levels for both equipment and service; the impact of the location of installation of equipment on business and residential customer acceptability; and the relative ease or difficulty of installation of actual equipment in different environments. Ultimately, limited market test authority will assist AT&T Wireless in determining the types of features to be included in equipment which will be used for fixed wireless service using WCS spectrum and overall acceptance of the equipment.

¹ AT&T Wireless PCS, LLC is a single member Delaware limited liability company. Its sole member is AT&T Corp. AT&T Wireless Services, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of AT&T Corp., manages AT&T Wireless PCS, LLC.

² AT&T Wireless is the license of the WCS licenses formerly held by Triad Holdings, LLC and it owns all the membership interests of Coloma Wireless, LLC, which owns 28 WCS licenses.

³ The 442 Form indicated that the system being applied for was for “Base and Mobile” operation. In this case the “Mobile” is the “remote unit” which is fixed to a building or other structure and which communicates with the base station with which it is associated.

As noted above, AT&T Wireless holds authorizations to provide WCS service in numerous markets. In order to give AT&T Wireless the flexibility to conduct tests in different geographic areas, it seeks an experimental license on a nationwide basis. To avoid having to install and uninstall equipment numerous times and move such equipment from one test bed to another over the course of its experimental program, AT&T Wireless seeks authority to deploy no more than 1500 units in the aggregate. This is the same number of units for which it was authorized in a separate experimental license in a different frequency band.

AT&T Wireless seeks an experimental license for two years since it intends to continue to conduct tests and develop new equipment for fixed wireless services using WCS spectrum. It will coordinate frequency usage with other licensees in the service.