

Additional Information for Frequency Application File 0426-EX-PL-2011

Avionics Engineering Center, Ohio University

Rev. 1 September 2011; DCB/AAW

This frequency application requests the approval and assignment to use two frequencies in the military UHF band (225-400 MHz) for research on the Joint Precision Approach and Landing System (JPALS) Increment 2 Land-Based System.

Additional details relating to FCC Form 442 are listed below:

Section 4. Exhibit for Government Contract

Joint Precision Approach and Landing System (JPALS) Increment 2 Land-Based System

Solicitation Number: Reference-Number-JPALS2RFI-1

Agency: Department of the Navy

Office: Naval Air Systems Command

Location: NAVAIR HQ

General Description. The Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR) will soon release a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the development and procurement of the Joint Precision Approach and Landing System (JPALS) Increment 2 Land-Based capability. JPALS Increment 2 will provide fixed and mobile precision approach and landing systems that will support 200 ft decision height (DH) and 1/2 statute mile visibility (Category I minima) while operating in the military or civil modes. The system must also support auto-land capability for suitably equipped aircraft (to include Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force aircraft), must operate in the Global Positioning System (GPS) jamming threat environment, and must be capable of successfully passing a FAA flight inspection and commissioning check. The JPALS ground system for the Increment 2 must also support civil interoperability with the Ground Based Augmentation System (GBAS) for Category I precision approaches. JPALS equipped aircraft must also be interoperable with the Satellite Based Augmentation System (SBAS).

Specific Use of Requested Frequencies. One of the requirements of the JPALS Increment 2 system is that it uses an encrypted data link in the UHF band (225 – 400 MHz) with a LAAS-like waveform, which is Differential-8 Phase Shift Keying (D8PSK). This application for an experimental radio license is to perform Independent Research and Development (IR&D) on JPALS, an effort for which the Department of the Air Force's GPS Directorate (AFSPC) at Los Angeles AFB has already specifically approved the use of military GPS receivers. This frequency will be used to develop and test a candidate JPALS ground-air datalink at the Ohio University airport (KUNI). Ohio University's extensive LAAS and related VHF Data Broadcast (VDB) experience enabled it to specify the UHF Data Broadcast for JPALS use with the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter (JSF), and will help ensure that at least one datalink solution for JPALS Increment 2 datalink is viable for DoD and compatible as much as possible with civil use. Thus, the use of the requested UHF frequencies at Ohio University is in the best interest of the U.S. Government, DoD and the U.S. National Airspace System (NAS).

Section 6. Exhibit for Research Project

- a. General Description. The Joint Precision Approach and Landing System (JPALS) Increment 2 Land-Based capability provides fixed and mobile precision approach and landing systems that will support 200 ft decision height (DH) and 1/2 statute mile visibility (Category I minima) while operating in the military or civil modes. The system will also support auto-land capability for suitably equipped aircraft (to include Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force aircraft), operate in the Global Positioning System (GPS) jamming threat environment, and be capable of successfully passing a FAA flight inspection and commissioning check. The JPALS ground system for the Increment 2 will also support civil interoperability with the Ground Based Augmentation System (GBAS) for Category I precision approaches. JPALS equipped aircraft will likewise also be interoperable with the Satellite Based Augmentation System (SBAS). Ohio University's Independent Research and Development (IR&D) project will develop, test and demonstrate a candidate architecture including encrypted UHF datalink.
- b. Necessity of the Requested Frequencies. The requested frequencies will be used for up to two simultaneous ground-to-air datalinks at different frequencies. The information transmitted to the aircraft will be essentially that required by the FAA's Local Area Augmentation System (LAAS), namely GPS range corrections observed at the airport, aircraft precision approach path coordinates, and similar information. The JPALS Increment 2 System Requirements Document (SRD) version 0.8 states the following in paragraph D.1.3, LB-UDB Waveform Function in JPALS (p. 131):

The [Land-Based] LB-UDB waveform is transmitted using a 25 kHz bandwidth signal operating in the UHF frequency band (225 to 400 MHz). The LB-UDB waveform is broadcast from the [Fixed System] FS or [Mobile System] MS and received in the aircraft. The LB-UDB waveform communicates the [Ground Station] GS data to the [Air System] AS. The data is encrypted, although the header is not. Maximum data transmission rate (including overhead) is approximately 31.5 kilobits per second (kbps).

The requirement to operate in the UHF band is as follows (p. 144):

[4080] The LB-UDB shall be capable of operating on carrier frequencies within the range of 225 to 400 MHz, inclusive, on 1.0 kHz channel centers with 25.0 kHz bandwidth.

- c. Inadequacy of Existing Communications Facilities. Ohio University does possess a frequency license for D8PSK LAAS transmissions at 114.450 MHz, which lies in the FAA-administered VHF navigation band. However, this frequency is not within the required UHF band of 225 – 400 MHz. Ohio University has no other UHF frequency licenses that would support this UHF requirement.