

Nextel Communications
2001 Edmund Halley Drive
Reston, VA 20191

January 10, 2001

Office of Engineering and Technology
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Pursuant to Part 5 of the Rules of the Federal Communications Commission ("Commission"), Nextel West Corp., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Nextel Communications, Inc. (collectively "Nextel") respectfully requests an Experimental Radio Station License for use of frequencies 851-866 MHz on a secondary, non-interference basis nationwide. Nextel requests this authorization to test use of 3G technologies in conjunction with its extensive existing licensing authority in the 800 MHz band.

Nextel currently provides wide-area digital Specialized Mobile Radio ("SMR") throughout much of the United States utilizing spectrum in the 800 MHz frequency band. Nextel's wide-area SMR services make efficient use of the spectrum by employing digital technologies and low power, multiple-tower cellular-like architectures that enable call hand-off and channel re-use throughout a larger geographic area. Nextel's wide-area SMR services, moreover, provide the user a combination of telecommunications services in a single handset, including digital push-to-talk services, cellular telephone, paging, and data services.

In an effort to increase its network capacity and possibly provide advanced generation (3G) wireless services, Nextel seeks to test and evaluate use of Code Division Multiple Access ("CDMA") technologies in conjunction with its existing SMR network. Specifically, Nextel intends to conduct 3G technology trials with several key vendors for CDMA compatibility with Nextel's existing spectrum. The knowledge and experience gained in these trials will enable Nextel to choose a wireless technology that not only meets the needs of its customers but also delivers the best spectrum efficiency.

Nextel requests nationwide authority in order to potentially conduct tests in more than one market. However, Nextel intends to use its exclusive SMR Block spectrum where all other individual "site-specific" licenses have already been cancelled/relocated by the Commission and are not currently operating by the former licensee. Because of its extensive licensing authority, Nextel is extremely

familiar with Commission licensing rules and requirements and will take necessary measures to ensure that these tests cause no harmful interference to any primary licensee outside its licensed bands.

Should the Commission have any questions regarding this matter, please contact the undersigned at (703) 433-4212.

Respectfully submitted,

James B. Goldstein
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