

**Nextel Communications**  
2001 Edmund Halley Drive  
Reston, VA 20191

September 15, 2000

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

Pursuant to Part 5 of the Rules of the Federal Communications Commission ("Commission"), Nextel Communications, Inc. ("Nextel") respectfully requests an Experimental Radio Station License for use of frequencies 1850 - 1910 MHz and 1930 - 1990 MHz on a secondary, non-interference basis nationwide. Nextel requests this authorization to test use of this spectrum in conjunction with its 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 has been an active participant in various Commission proceedings regarding the re-licensing of the Personal Communications Service ("PCS") C and F Block authorizations. The Commission has scheduled an auction for these available licenses to commence on December 12, 2000.

In order that Nextel can better evaluate its potential participation in this upcoming auction, Nextel seeks to test and evaluate use of PCS spectrum in conjunction with its existing SMR network. Specifically, Nextel intends to conduct 3G technology trials with several key vendors for PCS compatibility with Nextel's existing spectrum and equipment infrastructure. 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. Because Nextel has not yet selected an initial market for its proposed testing, its request is for nationwide authority and flexibility. However, Nextel intends to use C and F PCS Block spectrum where the individual licenses have already been cancelled by the Commission and are not currently operational by the former licensee. Therefore, Nextel intends to use fallow spectrum to undergo these tests. 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.

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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