

Associated Public-Safety Communications Officers, Inc.



MEMORANDUM

TO: All State, Local, and Federal Governmental Entities

FROM: Bill Smith, Convener *Bill Smith*

DATE: December 13, 2000

SUBJECT: Wyoming's 700 Megahertz Regional Planning

Though the Balance Budget Act of 1997, Congress directed the FCC to reallocate 24 megahertz of spectrum recovered from television Channels 60-69 as a result of the digital television proceeding for public safety services. In 1998, the FCC reallocated 24 megahertz of spectrum for public safety service and sought comment on the best use of this spectrum. This led to the adoption of the 700 MHz band plan and service rules contained in the First Report and Order. Part of the band plan designated 2.6 megahertz, or 10.8% of the band, to nationwide public safety interoperability use. The FCC chartered the National Coordination Committee (NCC) as an advisory committee for the purpose of addressing and advising the FCC on certain public safety communications matters. The FCC charged the NCC to prepare a report on the technical and operational standards for interoperability frequencies in this new public safety band. The FCC has proposed to adopt the majority of the NCC's recommendation which can be found in WT Docket No. 96-86. One recommendation is to allow applicants to aggregate four contiguous 6.25 kHz channels to form 25 kHz channels, which allows higher data speed. It was concluded that states should administer the interoperability channels and have Regional Planning Committees (RPC) develop Regional Plans and submit them to the FCC as Wyoming did with the Region 46 Plan for 800 MHz in 1990.

All interested parties are invited to attend a statewide meeting in Cheyenne at the Wyoming Department of Transportation auditorium, 5300 Bishop Boulevard, on February 15, 2001 at 10:00 A.M. in conjunction with a SALECS Commission meeting convening at 1:00 P.M.. The attendees should elect a chairperson and appoint a secretary, who will start the Regional Planning process.

For more information, contact the convener for the meeting, Bill Smith, Communications System Supervisor for the Wyoming DOT. Write him at 5300 Bishop Blvd., Cheyenne, WY 82009. Call him at (307) 777-4440. Fax him at (307) 777-4764. Direct e-mail to bsmith1@state.wy.us.