



Federal Communications Commission
Washington, DC 20554

International Bureau

September 14, 2017

Martin Proulx
Director General
Engineering, Planning and Standards Branch
Spectrum, Information Technologies and Telecommunications
Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada
235 Queen Street
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0H5

Dear Mr. Proulx:

After years of cooperative endeavor between the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Department of Innovation, Science and Economic Development (ISED) to maximize the efficiency of spectrum use between the United States and Canada, we were gratified by the successful completion of the *FCC Incentive Auction* earlier this year. As an integral part of the auction process, the FCC and ISED (hereinafter, collectively referred to as the “Agencies”) collaborated to reconfigure UHF television broadcasting spectrum use within each country to create a contiguous spectrum block for mobile broadband services. Through the mechanisms for television channel reassignment established under terms of the August 2015 *Statement of Intent Between the Federal Communications Commission of the United States of America and the Department of Industry of Canada Related to the Reconfiguration of Spectrum Use in the UHF Band for Over-The-Air Television Broadcasting and Mobile Broadband Services (2015 Statement of Intent)*, our Agencies successfully recovered 84 megahertz of spectrum without sacrificing the reliability of over-the-air television operations in either country.

To hasten the implementation of mobile services and facilitate an orderly transition of television services away from 600 MHz spectrum, the Agencies also developed a mutually acceptable schedule for television station reassignment. This transition schedule for reassigned television stations is divided into phases. Each phase is distinguished by a unique on-air testing period and phase completion date. Reassigned stations are expected to modify their existing operations by the phase completion date to avoid harmful interference to stations in the other country. The schedule is designed to promote efficient use of construction resources during the transition period and to avoid excessive interference between new channel assignments and existing operations.

With respect to these accomplishments, and consistent with the validation requirements set forth in the *2015 Statement of Intent*, the FCC considers the results of the *FCC Incentive Auction* are compliant with the terms of the *2015 Statement of Intent* and proposes implementation of the following mutual understanding between Agencies:

1. The 600 MHz band plan for mobile broadband services specified in Attachment 1 is acceptable to each Agency as a mutually validated product of the *2015 Statement of Intent*.

2. The Canadian and United States Reconfigured Television Allotment Plans and the corresponding phase transition schedules (available at the following locations: <http://ic.gc.ca/spectrum> and https://data.fcc.gov/download/incentive-auctions/Transition_Files) are acceptable to each Agency as a mutually validated product of the *2015 Statement of Intent*.
3. The Agencies intend to develop comprehensive implementation and evaluation procedures for digital television broadcasting use during the transition period. The Agencies intend to incorporate these procedures into a temporary sharing arrangement that governs DTV coordination and reassignment operation, DTV interference analysis, analysis of transition schedule impact.
4. The Agencies intend to develop a comprehensive, permanent sharing arrangement to govern coordination and operation of digital television broadcasting services for use after the transition period, as well as a separate permanent sharing arrangement to govern coordination and operation of 600 MHz mobile broadband services for use both during and after the transition period for services along the United States-Canada common border.
5. The Plans specified in Items 1 and 2 may be subject to temporary special provisions and permanent adjustment for incorporation into the sharing arrangements specified in Items 3 and 4.

The adoption of the 600 MHz Mobile Broadband Plan and the Canadian and United States Reconfigured Television Allotment Plan, marks the successful completion of the joint United States-Canada spectrum reconfiguration process as specified in the *2015 Statement of Intent*.

Please confirm by reply letter if your Agency finds the resultant understanding listed herein and in the attachments acceptable.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tom Sullivan", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Thomas Sullivan
Chief, International Bureau
Federal Communications Commission

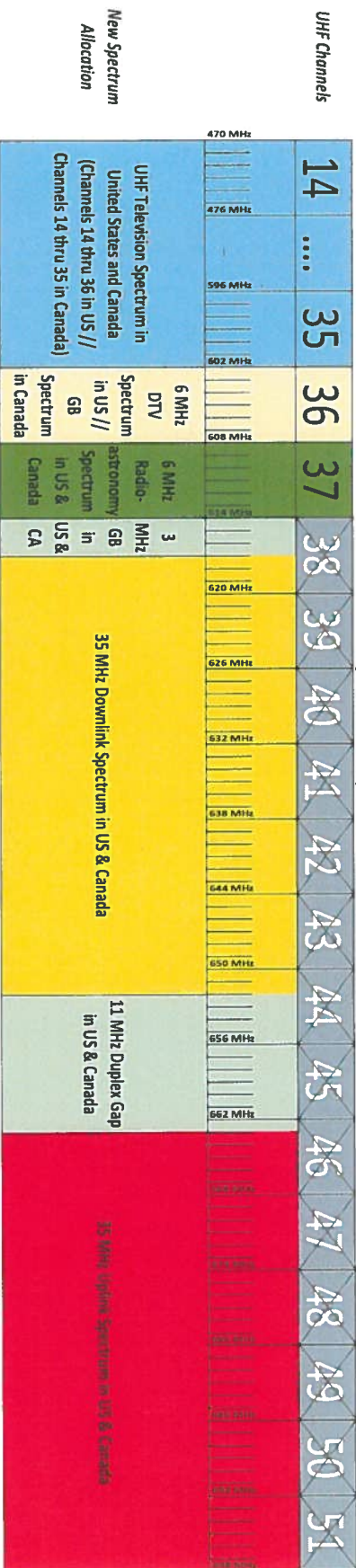
Attachment

Attachment 1: 600 MHz Mobile Broadband Plan

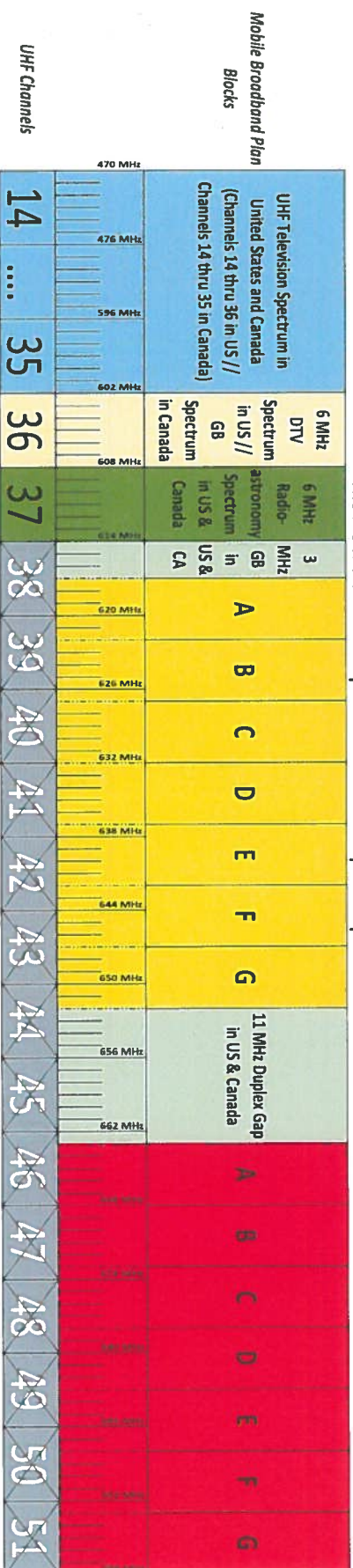
Attachment 1 600 MHz Mobile Broadband Plan

The Agencies have taken the previous plan for over-the-air television broadcast spectrum in the UHF Band and reallocated a portion for mobile broadband use as follows:

The US and Canada have reallocated UHF television spectrum, which previously spanned from channels 14 to 51 (470 MHz to 698 MHz), to create a 600 MHz mobile broadband plan. The plan incorporates 35 MHz each of mobile broadband uplink and downlink spectrum and 14 MHz in US and 20 MHz in Canada of guard band/duplex gap spectrum for adjacent service protection and wireless device use.



The mobile broadband plan is divided into 7 paired uplink and downlink blocks of 5 MHz each.



Channel 36 remains available for television use in the United States. Its use causes no inter-service interference inside Canada. Channel 37 is not used for television or mobile broadband services in either country.