

**INSTITUTO FEDERAL DE TELECOMUNICACIONES
UNIDAD DE ESPECTRO RADIOELECTRICO**

IFT/222/UER/168/2015

Mexico, Distrito Federal a 15 de julio de 2015

MINDEL DE LA TORRE

Chief of the International Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

PRESENTE

I refer to your communications dated 29 June and 15 July this year, received via email on the same dates, which provide updates to Table 1: post-digital TV transition allotments for Mexico; and of Table 6: allotments for the United States of America prior to the incentive auction and after the DTV transition, which take into consideration our exchange IFT / 222 / EBU / DG- IEET / 560 / 2015 dated June 2 of this year, which seeks to expand the range of channels available for use by some US stations located in the most congested border zones.

Regarding this matter, I would like to inform you that we appreciate the efforts of your Administration to find joint solutions to, on one hand, move Mexican channels located in the coordination zone established in the signed bilateral instruments below channel 37, and on the other hand, to have channel alternatives in which to relocate the US stations that remain in operation after the incentive auction in the United States of America, allowing both countries to benefit from plans to restructure the 600 MHz band to permit new wireless services.

We also appreciate the incorporation in Table 1 of the coordination requests for new channels that will be included in our next Annual Frequency Bands Program 2016, which at the moment appear as "floating" channels and which at the appropriate time will have the final channels designated for them. With respect to these, I would appreciate it very much if you tell us as soon as possible which frequency band, whether VHF or UHF, will be awarded to Mexico for the 34 channel coordination requests designated as floating channels.

In addition to this, we appreciate the effort of your team in providing timely responses to requests of our administration for the coordination of complementary equipment that primary operating DTV stations need to replicate their analog coverage, a situation that has contributed to our Administration's ability to comply with the objective of successfully completing the process of transition to Digital Terrestrial Television in Mexico.

Regarding implementation of the Allotment Plan for Mexico (Table 1), we understand that the final digital channels are for immediate use by stations, except those channels marked with an asterisk (*), which in order to be used will have to await the outcome of the FCC incentive auction, which we understand will be held, at the latest, in the first half of 2016. Similarly, for stations with a double asterisk (**) their use will be subject to the process and the administrative time required to modify the channel previously authorized by IFT.

As to the updates of your DTV Allotment Plan (Table 6) which seek to expand the range of channels that potentially could be used by each station, we understand that at this time the Commission has no certainty of the channels that will finally remain in operation after the incentive auction, which is why we agree to provide flexibility with the proposals listed in Table 6, on the understanding that only one channel is finally chosen, preferably below the channel 37, for those stations remaining in operation at the end of the incentive auction.



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Because of the time constraints required by our Administrations for use of some of the channels specified in Table 1 marked with (*) and / or (**) , plus eventual definition of the final channel assignment in Table 6 we understand that the two Administrations must carry out coordination to arrange the appropriate time for ultimate implementation of operation by stations as provided in Tables 1 and 6 and to avoid the risk of affecting the DTV services on both sides of the common border.

As for the guidelines numbered 1-7 that the FCC proposed in its letter of July 15, with the aim of contributing to the process of transition to DTV in Mexico and plans for reconfiguration of the spectrum below channel 51 in both Administrations, we agree in general with the terms set by the FCC in the referenced paragraphs above. However, we state the following details:

Regarding number 2 of those guidelines referred to above, we note that this Institute has not yet formally determined the amount of MHz below channel 51 that will be reconfigured for new wireless services, so our Administration will not necessarily free a maximum of 84 MHz for mobile broadband services but may increase this amount of spectrum in the future.

Concerning numbers 5, 6 and 7 of the guidelines, we express our intention to work with the FCC to jointly establish new conditions for sharing of DTV spectrum in both countries; conditions for spectrum sharing and technical conditions for coexistence of television services and mobile broadband operations below channel 51 ; all with a view to establishing rules and procedures to agree on the use of radio spectrum for such services by amending the existing bilateral agreements and eventually adopting new bilateral agreements.

In this regard, we express to the FCC that in negotiations to agree upon amendments to existing agreements or adoption of new bilateral agreements, this Institute would do it in coordination with the Secretariat of Communications and Transportation of Mexico, which is the formal authority for international agreements in our country in the subject matter at hand.

For these reasons, we express that the terms in which the FCC proposes the allotment plan for Mexico and the United States of America contained in Tables 1 and 6 with their respective specific written notes of your letter of July 15 of this year, are acceptable to our Administration as well as the proposed guidelines along with the clarifications we have described in the preceding paragraphs.

Cordially,

ATENTAMENTE

"2015, Año del Generalísimo José María Morelos Pavón"

EL TITULAR DE LA UNIDAD



ALEJANDRO NAVARRETE TORRES

c.c.p. JUAN CARLOS HERNANDEZ WOCKER.- Titular de la Coordinación General de Asuntos Internacionales del IFT. Presente.