

the bands licensed on a geographic area basis.

(2) Eligible ITFS licensees may apply to the Commission to partition their licensed geographic service areas to eligible entities and are free to determine the portion of their service areas to be partitioned. Eligible ITFS licensees may aggregate or disaggregate their licensed spectrum at any time following the grant of a license.

(b) *Technical standards* (1) There is no limitation on the amount of spectrum that an ITFS licensee may aggregate.

(2) Spectrum may be disaggregated in any amount. A licensee need not retain a minimum amount of spectrum.

(3) In the case of partitioning, applicants and licensees must file FCC Form 603 pursuant to § 1.948 of this chapter and list the partitioned service area on a schedule to the application. The geographic coordinates must be specified in degrees, minutes, and seconds to the nearest second of latitude and longitude, and must be based upon the 1983 North American Datum (NAD83).

(4) Combined partitioning and disaggregation. The Commission will consider requests from geographic area licensees for partial assignment of licenses that propose combinations of partitioning and disaggregation.

(c) *Construction requirements.*—(1) *Disaggregation.* Partial assignors and assignees for license disaggregation have two options to meet construction requirements. Under the first option, the disaggregator and Disaggregate would certify that they each will share responsibility for meeting the applicable construction requirements set forth in § 101.1506 for the geographic service area. If parties choose this option and either party fails to demonstrate substantial service, both licenses would be subject to forfeiture at renewal. The second option allows the parties to agree that either the disaggregator or disaggregate would be responsible for meeting the requirements in § 101.1505 for the geographic service area. If parties choose this option, and the party responsible for meeting the construction requirement fails to do so, only the license of the non-performing party would be subject to forfeiture at renewal.

(2) *Partitioning.* Partial assignors and assignees for license partitioning have two options to meet construction requirements. Under the first option, the partitionor and partitionee would each certify that they will independently provide substantial service for their respective partitioned areas. If either licensee fails to meet its requirement in § 101.1505, only the non-performing

licensee's renewal application would be subject to dismissal. Under the second option, the partitionor certifies that it has met or will meet the requirement in § 101.1505 for the entire market. If the partitionor fails to meet the requirement in § 101.1505, however, only its license would be subject to forfeiture at renewal.

(3) All applications requesting partial assignments of license for partitioning or disaggregation must certify in the appropriate portion of the application which construction option is selected.

(4) Responsible parties must submit supporting documents as required by § 101.1505.

(d) *License term.* The license term for a partitioned license area and for disaggregated spectrum shall be the remainder of the original licensee's license term.

(e) *Remote Control Operation.* Licensed ITFS stations may be operated by remote control without further authority.

§ 101.1508 Unattended operation.

Unattended operation of licensed ITFS stations is permitted without further authority. An unattended relay station may be employed to receive and retransmit signals of another station provided that the transmitter is equipped with circuits which permit it to radiate only when the signal intended to be retransmitted is present at the receiver input terminals.

§ 101.1509 License term.

(a) Incumbent ITFS licenses shall be issued for a period of 10 years beginning with the date of grant.

(b) A BTA authorization shall be issued for a period of ten years from the date the Commission declared bidding closed in the ITFS auction.

12. Add subpart R to part 101 to read as follows:

Subpart R—Multipoint Distribution Service

Sec.

- 101.1601 Purpose and permissible service.
- 101.1602 BTA license authorization.
- 101.1603 Service areas.
- 101.1604 Conversion of incumbent MDS stations to geographic area licensing.
- 101.1605 Performance requirements.
- 101.1606 Partitioning and disaggregation.
- 101.1607 Remote control operations.
- 101.1608 Unattended operation.
- 101.1609 License term.

§ 101.1601 Purpose and permissible service.

Multipoint Distribution Service stations may provide any fixed or mobile services for which its frequency bands are allocated, subject to the

technical and other rules contained in this part and subpart.

§ 101.1602 BTA license authorization.

(a) Winning bidders must file an application (FCC Form 601) for an initial authorization in each market and frequency block.

(b) Blanket licenses are granted for each market and frequency block. Blanket licenses cover all mobile and response stations. Blanket licenses also cover all fixed stations anywhere within the authorized service area, except as follows:

(1) A fixed station (other than a response station) would be required to be individually licensed if:

(i) International agreements require coordination;

(ii) Submission of an Environmental Assessment is required under § 1.1307 of this chapter; and

(iii) The station would affect the radio quiet zones under § 1.924 of this chapter.

(2) Any antenna structure that requires notification to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) must be registered with the Commission prior to construction under § 17.4 of this chapter.

§ 101.1603 Service areas.

Most MDS service areas are Basic Trading Areas (BTAs). BTAs are based on the Rand McNally 1992 Commercial Atlas & Marketing Guide, 123rd Edition, at pages 38–39. The following are additional MDS service areas in places where Rand McNally has not defined BTAs: American Samoa; Guam; Northern Mariana Islands; Mayaguez/ Aguadilla-Ponce, Puerto Rico; San Juan, Puerto Rico; and the United States Virgin Islands. The Mayaguez/ Aguadilla-Ponce, PR, service area consists of the following municipios: Adjuntas, Aguada, Aguadilla, Anasco, Arroyo, Cabo Rojo, Coamo, Guanica, Guayama, Guayanilla, Hormigueros, Isabela, Jayuya, Juana Diaz, Lajas, Las Marias, Maricao, Maunabo, Mayaguez, Moca, Patillas, Penuelas, Ponce, Quebradillas, Rincón, Sabana Grande, Salinas, San German, Santa Isabel, Villalba and Yauco. The San Juan service area consists of all other municipios in Puerto Rico.

§ 101.1604 Conversion of incumbent MDS stations to geographic area licensing.

(a) Any MDS station licensed by the Commission prior to [date to be decided] as well as assignments and transfers approved by the Commission and consummated as of [date to be decided] shall be considered incumbent and grandfathered (may continue to