



The UK Wireless Internet Service Providers Association

Consultation Response to Draft RSPG Work Programme for 2018 and beyond

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Abstract — UKWISPA and INCA response to the RSPG Draft Work program highlighting the need to consider alternative methods of licensing 3.6 GHz spectrum than using a nationwide licensing method. The CBRs specifications are proposed as a basis to be used in Europe.

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1 Introduction

May UK Wireless Internet Service Provider Association (UKWISPA) and Independent Networks Cooperative Association (INCA) thank the Radio Spectrum Policy Group (RSPG) for inviting comments on the Draft RSPG Second Opinion on 5G networks¹.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and Wireless Internet Service Provider Association (USA) (WISPA) have defined for United States of America (USA) a method of licensing the 3.4 to 3.8 GHz band (3.6 GHz band) which is very business friendly and enables innovation in the methods that businesses can use to

¹ work program https://circabc.europa.eu/d/a/workspace/SpacesStore/f4529e71-3f00-4c52-a902-cda519d03201/RSPG17-040_work_programme-2018_and_beyond.pdf

access the spectrum. Similar requirements for innovative use of spectrum exist in Europe. The principle important component is to enable a licensing regime where the areas to be licensed are enabled in small fragments. A mobile operator who want a very large area (up to 10% of the landmass) would need to license many fragments but using today's online database technologies this is a simple matter to enable.

2 Anticipated Work Program

Rationale

The Citizens Band Radio Service (CBRS) approach provides a valuable basis for flexible and innovative use of spectrum in Europe. We recognise that it will be necessary to Europe to develop a method suited to European needs; for example, power levels, spectrum masks, and interference levels may need to be studied and designed to match European needs.

Scope of RSPG activity

Dialogue will be required to affirm scoping, pending further review of the CBRS approach. Until the team understand the CBRS system and its applicability to the European Union it is not clear what will have to change. Thus we provide a preliminary list below:

- Study the FCC documentation
- Study the European needs
- Develop recommendations on methods to be used to meet European needs
- Assess impact on EN Standards
- Define recommendations and action plan
- Further work as necessary

Planned type of deliverable

The results of the working group shall be presented to the RSPG (in the form of reports with clear recommendations) for consideration and action.

Time schedule

The licensing of 3.6 GHz band is progressing in some countries already (for example; UK, Italy and Ireland). Adoption of these business friendly process will be difficult to accommodate after nationwide licensing has occurred, it is imperative therefore to begin this study immediately.