

REPUBLIC
OF
SOUTH AFRICA



REPUBLIEK
VAN
SUID-AFRIKA

Government Gazette Staatskoerant

Vol. 398

PRETORIA, 24 AUGUST
AUGUSTUS 1998

No. 19183

GENERAL NOTICE

NOTICE 1871 OF 1998

SOUTH AFRICAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY AUTHORITY



NOTICE OF THE INTENTION TO REVISE THE BAND PLAN FOR 10.7 – 11.7 GHz

By virtue of the powers conferred upon the South African Telecommunications Regulatory Authority ("the Authority") in terms of Section 29 of the Telecommunication Act, 1996, Act 103 of 1996 ("the Act"), pursuant to Government Gazette no. 18883, as revised by Government Gazette 18933, dated 30 April 1998 and 27 May 1998 respectively, SATRA intends finalising further urgently required sub-bands/associated services as alluded to in (b) of the notice 18883. Therefore, the Authority hereby-

- (a) gives notice that it intends establishing a frequency band plan covering two sub-bands within the 10.7-11.7GHz frequency band for purposes of the introduction of the DTH BSS. This is intended to be done without constraint to services already allocated within this band (FS/FSS).
- (b) further gives notice of the intention to hold the public hearing covering the issue raised in (a) on the 07 September 1998. This hearing is to be held in terms of Section 29 (5) of the Act, and is pursuant to written inputs called for by the Government Gazette 18883, Section C of this notice, in accordance with Section 29 (4) of the Act. The hearing will be conducted at SATRA, Auditorium, Block B, Pin Mill Farm, 164 Katherine Street, SANDTON from 10H00. Interested parties should confirm their attendance to Portia Molope, Secretary – Frequency Planning Department, by no later than 16H30 on 28 August 1998 in writing by means of facsimile (011- 321 8564) or e-mail; molop@satra.gov.za.
- (c) further gives notice that the final decision on the introduction of the DTH BSS in the area of 10.7-11.7 GHz be announced at 10H00 on 11 September 1998 at the Auditorium, Block B, Pin Mill Farm, 164 Katherine Street, SANDTON. Members of the public are invited to attend the announcement. The final decision will also be published in the Government Gazette as soon as possible after this date.

DISCUSSION PAPER WITH RESPECT TO THE GENERAL NOTICE

1. Introduction

There is an increasing demand for DTH BSS and other related broadcasting services in South Africa. It is of great importance to exercise flexibility in catering for such services while recognising that there are existing and future demands for terrestrial and satellite based telecommunications services in the same band.

The solution to the matter under discussion must be structured and planned in a manner not only to eliminate possible interference, but also at the same time to minimise the co-ordination requirements between the various users involved both in South Africa and its neighbouring states.

The principal aim of the re-planning is :-

- To introduce broadcasting services (DTH) within two sub-bands of the 10.7-11.7 GHz band.
- To protect current and future developments of FS/FSS throughout the band 10.7-11.7 GHz.

1.1 Possible Considerations

- i) Sharing between Broadcasting Satellite Services (BSS) and the Fixed Services (FS) /Fixed Satellite Services (FSS) in bands allocated within Region 1 of the ITU as FS/FSS.
- ii) Joint Liaison Committee (JLC) to monitor the angle of elevation of any potential future broadcasting satellite within this band.
- iii) Primary allocation to be reserved for FS/FSS in the shared portion of the band.
- iv) Secondary allocation to be reserved for BSS in the shared portion of the band.
- v) To revise band allocation in the 10,7 – 11,7 to indicate sharing in the sub-bands 10,95 – 11,2 GHz and 11,45 – 11,7 GHz with consideration of (ii – iv).

Primary and Secondary allocations will be as defined by the ITU Radio Regulations.

Conclusion

Due to the historical use of the band concerned in South Africa, and extremely advantageous nature of terrestrial propagation within this band of FS, which will actively aid the concept of Universal Service, FS in this band in particular remains of paramount importance to South Africa. At the same time it is necessary to promote the development of broadcasting. With this in mind it is vital to promote the harmonious convergence in the use of this band by all services concerned.

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Printed by and obtainable from the Government Printer, Bosman Street, Private Bag X85, Pretoria, 0001
Tel: (012) 334-4507, 334-4511, 334-4509, 334-4515

Gedruk deur en verkrygbaar by die Staatsdrukker, Bosmanstraat, Privaat Sak X85, Pretoria, 0001
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