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## THE WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS BUREAU SEEKS COMMENT ON THE 3.45 GHZ CLEARINGHOUSE'S REQUEST TO WIND DOWN AND SUSPEND OPERATIONS

## **WT Docket 19-348**

Comments Due: December 18, 2024

By this Public Notice, the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (Bureau) seeks comment on the request of Summit Ridge Group, LLC (Summit Ridge) to wind down and suspend the operations of the 3.45 GHz Reimbursement Clearinghouse (Clearinghouse) by March 1, 2025.<sup>1</sup>

On March 8, 2021, in the 3.45 GHz Second Report and Order, the Commission adopted rules to make 100 megahertz of mid-band spectrum available for flexible use throughout the contiguous United States and determined that secondary, non-federal radiolocation licensees in the band would be relocated to facilitate this goal.<sup>2</sup> In addition, the Commission required "new flexible-use licensees in the 3.45 GHz Service to reimburse secondary, non-federal radiolocation licensees for reasonable costs related to the relocation of those operations to the 2.9–3.0 GHz band, including the costs of a relocation clearinghouse's administration of the reimbursement."<sup>3</sup>

In the 3.45 GHz Clearinghouse Selection Process Order, the Bureau, pursuant to delegated authority, established a search committee to select a Clearinghouse that would be responsible for handling all cost-related aspects of the transition.<sup>4</sup> On May 2, 2023, this search committee selected Summit Ridge

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Letter from J. Armand Musey, President, Summit Ridge Group, LLC, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, WT Docket No. 19-348, at 1 (filed Oct. 30, 2024), <a href="https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/document/103015042570/1">https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/document/103015042570/1</a> (Summit Ridge Oct. 30 Supplement); Letter from J. Armand Musey, President, Summit Ridge Group, LLC, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, WT Docket No. 19-348, at 1 (filed Oct. 23, 2024), <a href="https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/document/1023549722868/1">https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/document/1023549722868/1</a> (Summit Ridge Oct. 23 Letter).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> See Facilitating Shared Use in the 3100–3550 MHz Band, WT Docket No. 19-348, Second Report and Order, Order on Reconsideration, and Order of Proposed Modification, 36 FCC Rcd 5987 (2021) (3.45 GHz Band Second R&O); Facilitating Shared Use in the 3100–3550 MHz Band, WT Docket No. 19-348, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 35 FCC Rcd 11078, 11086, para. 20 (2020).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 3.45 GHz Band Second R&O, 36 FCC Rcd at 6042, para. 155. The Commission "anticipate[d] clearinghouse costs to be minimal, given the limited number of licensees being relocated and relatively small estimated cost of their transition. The radiolocation service incumbents will initially fund the clearinghouse and can request reimbursement from new flexible-use licensees for the clearinghouse costs." *Id.* at 6042, para. 155, n.386.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Facilitating Shared Use in the 3100—3550 MHz Band, WT Docket No. 19-348, Order, 37 FCC Rcd 13264, 13267, para. 7 (WTB 2022) (3.45 GHz Clearinghouse Selection Process Order). The search committee is composed of four entities that the Commission found, collectively, reasonably represented the interests of stakeholders—the incumbents, NBCUniversal and Nexstar, and the new entrants, represented by CCA and CTIA.

to serve as the Clearinghouse.<sup>5</sup> In the *3.45 GHz Clearinghouse Selection Process Order*, the Bureau directed the selected Clearinghouse to submit a request to wind down and suspend operations after its duties had been completed.<sup>6</sup> Pursuant to this direction, on October 23, 2024, Summit Ridge submitted its formal request to begin the wind down process.<sup>7</sup> Summit Ridge requests March 1, 2025 as its shut down date.<sup>8</sup> We seek comment on this request and on any other issues relevant to the Clearinghouse wind down process.<sup>9</sup>

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*Filing Requirements*. Interested parties may file comments, identified by WT Docket No. 19-348, on or before the date indicated on the first page of this document by any of the following methods:

- Electronic Filers: Comments may be filed electronically using the Internet by accessing the ECFS: <a href="https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/">https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/</a>.
- Paper Filers: Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and one copy of each filing.
  - Filings can be sent by commercial courier or by the U.S. Postal Service. All filings must be addressed to the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission.
  - Hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary are accepted between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. by the FCC's mailing contractor at 9050 Junction Drive, Annapolis Junction, MD 20701. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes and boxes must be disposed of before entering the building.
  - Commercial courier deliveries (any deliveries not by the U.S. Postal Service) must be sent to 9050 Junction Drive, Annapolis Junction, MD 20701.
  - Filings sent by U.S. Postal Service First-Class Mail, Priority Mail, and Priority Mail Express must be addressed to 45 L St NE, Washington, DC 20554.

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*Additional Information.* For further information regarding this Public Notice, please contact Morgan Mendenhall, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, at <a href="Morgan.Mendenhall@fcc.gov">Morgan.Mendenhall@fcc.gov</a> or 202-418-0154.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Letter from Angela Y. Ball, Senior Vice President, Regulatory Affairs, NBCUniversal, et al., to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, WT Docket No. 19-348, at 1 (filed May 2, 2023), https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/document/105020040803345/1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> 3.45 GHz Clearinghouse Selection Process Order, 37 FCC Rcd at 13275, para.42.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Summit Ridge Oct. 23 Letter at 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Summit Ridge Oct. 30 Supplement at 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> 3.45 GHz Clearinghouse Selection Process Order, 37 FCC Rcd at 13275, para.42.