

Allocation of spectrum at 3.5 GHz for broadband wireless access - Round 3

Background

In December 2001, the government agreed to create and retain rights to two 3.5 GHz blocks of radio spectrum suitable for fixed (broadband) wireless access use. Licences were to be made available for specific geographic areas, typically for high speed internet connections in rural/provincial areas.

In March 2004, Cabinet agreed to release these blocks for commercial allocation. The Ministry of Economic Development released a discussion document outlining draft allocation proposals for public feedback and comment. A summary of submissions on the draft allocation proposals was released in July 2004.

In September 2004, an allocation plan was announced. The plan provided for the commercial assignment of area spectrum licences defined by the boundaries of territorial local authorities. The government has created two lots of licences in the 3.5 GHz spectrum band for each of the 74 territorial local authority areas, i.e. a total of 148 lots. Each lot comprises a pair of 7.5 MHz licences.

A first round assignment of 71 lots was completed in 2006. Fourteen applicants were assigned a total of 64 lots, and a further seven lots were allocated to Compass Communications Limited under [Project PROBE](#) priority.

On 12 November 2007, the government called for applications for the 77 radio spectrum licence lots available for the second assignment round.

Allocation of spectrum for 32 uncontested lots has been confirmed and results of the package bid tender allocated a further 8 lots. These applicants have been invited to proceed to settlement.

The remaining 37 lots are planned to be offered for allocation under modified terms and conditions in August 2008.

Further information

[Extension of implementation period: terms and conditions](#)

Information on terms and conditions under which consideration will be given to granting a six month extension to the implementation period.

[Allocation round two: full tender data and provisional results](#)

Released: 20 March 2008

[Call for tenders from competing applicants](#)

Information on the tender process for competing applicants.

[Package bid tender rules](#)

The tender rules for licence lots for which there are competing applicants.

[3.5 Ghz allocation rules \[128 kB PDF\]](#)

The relevant timing, technical information (including licence areas available) and process for assigning area spectrum licences in the 3.5 GHz band.

[Notice of qualified applicants \(round 2\)](#)

Qualified applicants (round 2) as at 14 January 2008.

[Notice of applications received \(round 2\)](#)

[Archived documents](#)

Access archived documents relating to Fixed Wireless Access: Allocation of Crown-Retained Spectrum at 3.5 GHz.

[Draft allocation rules – second assignment round](#)

[3.5 GHz second assignment round – submissions received on the draft allocation rules](#)

[Questions and answers regarding the second assignment round of 3.5 GHz spectrum licences](#)

[Statutory declaration – sample text](#)

Documents

[Second assignment round information](#)

[Media statements](#)

[Consultation documents](#)

[Archived documents](#)

Second assignment round information

[Call for tenders from competing applicants](#) - Information on the tender process for competing applicants

[Package bid tender rules \[262 kB PDF\]](#) - the tender rules for licence lots for which there are competing applicants

[Bid solver](#) - Information on how winning bids are determined

[Notice of qualified applicants \(round 2\)](#)

[Notice of applications received \(round 2\)](#)

[3.5 GHz allocation rules \(2007\) \[128 kB PDF\]](#) – The relevant timing, technical information (including licence areas available) and process for assigning area spectrum licences in the 3.5 GHz band.

[3.5 GHz application form \(2007\) \[47 kB PDF\]](#) – Includes reserve prices and location of each lot.

[3.5 GHz flowchart \[25 kB PDF\]](#) – Sets out the process for the Second Assignment Round.

[Statutory declaration](#) – Sample statutory declaration text

[Map of New Zealand](#) – Territorial local authorities' boundaries and information

[Questions and answers regarding the second assignment round of 3.5 GHz spectrum licences.](#)

Media statements

[7 November 2007 - Broadband services in rural and provincial areas](#) – Hon David Cunliffe, Minister of Communications and Information Technology

[12 September 2007 - More high-speed internet licences for rural areas](#) – Hon David Cunliffe, Minister of Communications

Consultation documents

[Draft allocation rules](#) - A discussion paper setting out draft allocation rules for the Second Assignment Round (September 2007)

[Submissions](#) – View the submissions received on the draft allocation rules for the Second Assignment Round (October 2007)

Archived documents

Access [archive documents](#) relating to allocation of spectrum at 3.5 GHz for broadband wireless access.