

From: Matthew Harrison (Primo)
Sent: Monday, 12 July 2021 13:59
To: Crown Spectrum <CrownSpectrum@mbie.govt.nz>
Cc: Jason Holton (Primo) ; Kelly Ellis (Primo)
Subject: MSP Review

Dear Crown Spectrum,

This email is a submission in response to the Managed Spectrum Park Review and Regional/Non-National Allocation Discussion document, June 2021.

We understand that the Managed Spectrum Park (MSP) is a block of radio spectrum between 2580-2620 MHz set aside in order to allow users like Primo to supply a diverse range of services. Radio Spectrum Management (RSM) grants licences in this spectrum subject to Licence Agreements which comply with the Managed Spectrum Park Rules. Since its establishment, Licensees of the MSP have used it to provide diverse services such as wireless broadband, road traffic monitoring, voice telephony, and the control of traffic signals.

Question 1: *Do you think that co-operation is feasible in the Managed Spectrum Park?*

Yes. WISPA members have proved that many times in the way that they have worked together. However, the Park rules need to make this more feasible in regards to compatibility of technologies and bandwidth allocation. Some technologies have a smaller bandwidth requirement. LTE for fixed Internet usage, for example, requires 40MHz to provide the performance required by most users and LTE is what Primo is using it's MSP spectrum for.

Question 2: *When considering MSP spectrum allocations, what allocation method(s) would be preferable to you?*

We prefer a regional single party with an administrative application. This ensures that the government's policies, for example enhancing rural coverage, can influence the choice.

Question 3: *What are your thoughts on the level of technical requirements/rules in relation to MSP licenses?*

The existing regional boundaries based on historic TLAs is not ideal. It would be better to look at regions that are more suitable to RF use where terrain creates a boundary between regions. There needs to be a balance struck between strict technical requirements that limit flexibility and innovation and more loose requirements that would make it more difficult to define clear boundaries between license holders.

Question 4: *What are your thoughts on the best method(s) for future regional/non-national spectrum allocations?*

The vast majority of existing 2.6GHz usage is for fixed wireless access in rural areas. The current method of costing based on population causes a problem where users have to pay more where their coverage includes dense urban areas that are well served by fibre and MNO's with much more spectrum available so are not likely to use the fixed wireless services. As above with Q3, geographical boundaries should be realigned to more readily suit terrain and population areas. Spectrum needs to be used so robust implementation rules need to be put in place to ensure that it is used within a reasonable time period.

Question 5: *Should priority be given to incumbents over new entrants?*

Yes, priority should be given to incumbents over new entrants providing the incumbents have a proven track record of utilising the spectrum well in their region.

Question 6: *Is the market big enough to support sub-regional competition?*

Sub-regional competition is already happening independent of spectrum allocation. There is no need to break the allocations down into sub-regions.

Question 7: *Should spectrum allocation rules be used to limit consolidation (mergers or take-overs) of regional players*

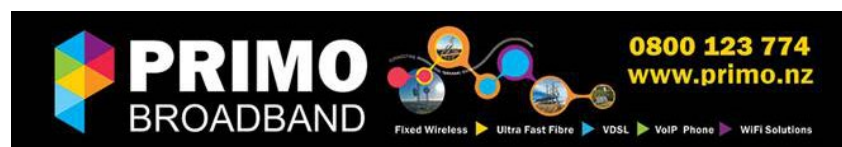
There should be rules limiting the number of regions that one entity can have and this will address consolidation issues. Current rules appear to be adequate in this regard.

Question 8: *What are your thoughts on how to protect regional rights for regional use?*

In order to protect regional rights effective rules need to be in place to ensure that national providers who already have other national spectrum rights should not be allocated regional rights. Robust implementation rules and monitoring needs to be done. The RSM should support existing rights holders that have complied with the rules and be the final arbiter when it comes to an impasse between applicants/rights holders.

Kind regards

Matthew Harrison
The Top Dog / Managing Director



The information transmitted, including attachments, is intended only for the person(s) or entity to which it is addressed and may contain confidential and/or privileged material. Any review, retransmission, dissemination or other use of, or taking of any action in reliance upon this information by persons or entities other than the intended recipient is prohibited. If you received this in error, please contact the sender and destroy any copies of this information.