



**\*\*\* URGENT ENGINEERING INFORMATION \*\*\***

DATE: May 9, 2018  
FROM: Eric Wiler, SVP Technology and Operations  
TO: All Satellite Affiliates  
SUBJECT: C Band Satellite Registration

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On April 19, 2018, the FCC issued a public notice regarding a 90-day opportunity to register existing C Band Downlinks. All major commercial broadcast (e.g., Television, Radio, Cable) services are delivered via C Band Satellite service. The FCC intends to evaluate the 3.7 – 4.2Ghz C Band for mobile broadband data services which could create insurmountable interference to the programming you presently receive via satellite. **It is critical that you register your downlink so the FCC is aware of it during this 90-day window or you risk losing ALL of your satellite programming. The 90-day window closes on July 18, 2018.**

Typically, registration requires a Frequency Coordination Study (\$1,500) plus a \$435 filing fee. During the 90-day window, the FCC waived the first fee and only the \$435 filing fee applies. It is possible the FCC will later charge the \$1,500 study fee.

In our history, we have never had to license and/or register C Band downlinks. However, given this recent initiative, it is important the FCC be aware of all downlinks in existence in assessing whether to provide C Band to mobile broadband data services and also so that it understands the potential of insurmountable interference for radio programming. The FCC believes that if you do not register your downlink during this window, you do not need interference protection moving forward. Accordingly, it is our recommendation that your station immediately register your downlink. You may register using the FCC Form 312, using the paper form, online at <http://licensing.fcc.gov/myibfs>, or engage a third party to assist you. Satellite Engineering Group is a third-party resource and can be reached at 913-375-1114.

Westwood One has been working with other networks and satellite vendors to attempt to resolve this situation. Options under consideration include “splitting the band” between data and satellite. Your registration is key to helping the FCC appreciate the universe of existing downlinks and the potential outcome of any decision they may make to expand the use of C Band to mobile broadband data services.

If you have any questions, please email [dishreg@westwoodone.com](mailto:dishreg@westwoodone.com) for the fastest response.

# **DISH REGISTRATION FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

## ***Why is the FCC considering the C Band for data?***

The extensive use of mobile devices, Wifi and other data services has created a constant need for radio spectrum and the government is considering all possible options.

## ***What happens if I don't register?***

You are waiving your station's rights to have your downlinks considered by the FCC and any interference situation will be a local issue to resolve (assuming that is possible).

## ***Why isn't Westwood (or another network) registering my downlink for me?***

Just as TV stations don't furnish televisions, Networks are programming providers and the dish is specific to each station. Further, your dish information is not available to us.

## ***Does this impact only Westwood One?***

No. All C Band Radio, Television and Data services on every satellite are at risk.

## ***Is it possible to do full registration during the 90 day window (with frequency coordination)?***

The FCC's notice has language that indicates the protection is only with a frequency coordination study, then says register to provide protection. Filing with the Comsearch study is preferable, but if cost is a major consideration, the less expensive option is available.

## ***Can I use the Internet for program delivery?***

XDS and Wegener receivers have Internet BACKUP capability. Neither of these platforms are engineered to provide reliable delivery via Internet only. Westwood One recommends using satellite transmission with Internet only as a backup to ensure reliable delivery.

## ***Why not move to another band, KU for example?***

KU Band satellite is an alternative however it suffers from loss of signal in heavy precipitation and is not considered reliable for broadcast. There is also not enough capacity to move all C Band services to KU.

***Does this only impact radio services?***

No. This move impacts Television, Cable, Radio and Cband data services the same. This is not isolated to a single satellite but the entire “universe” of broadcast delivery.

***Can Westwood One fill out the forms for me?***

No. As your network, we are not authorized to apply on your behalf for governmental licensing.

***We just re-aimed to the new satellite, is this related?***

No. The re-aim from AMC-8 to SES-11 was precipitated by the end-of-life for the AMC-18 satellite. The FCC’s consideration of the C Band frequencies came after the move, and impacts every satellite in the arc, and all broadcast services.