

ago. To ensure that the Commission has the benefit of current information, including any developments relating to these issues since the release of the underlying *NGSO ESIM FNPRM*, we invite interested parties to update the record as discussed below.

**Background.** In 2018, the Commission adopted rules governing communications for ESIMs with geostationary orbit (“GSO”) satellites. At that time, the Commission also sought comment on allowing ESIMs to operate in all the frequency bands in which earth stations at fixed locations operating in GSO fixed satellite service (“FSS”) satellite networks can be blanket-licensed. Later that same year, the Commission adopted a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) that sought comment on expanding the Commission’s ESIM rules to cover communications with NGSO FSS satellites.

In 2020, the Commission adopted rules that allowed for NGSO FSS operations of ESIMs in certain bands and opened up additional frequency bands for GSO FSS ESIM use. At that time, the Commission permitted NGSO FSS ESIMs in the 28.4–28.6 GHz subject to compliance with future determinations but deferred consideration on permitting NGSO FSS ESIMs in the 28.35–28.4 GHz band, and sought comment to further address issues raised by commenters in the record and to allow for additional study of out-of-band emissions issues.

Since the Commission last sought comment on permitting NGSO FSS ESIMs in the entirety of the 28.35–28.6 GHz band, multiple parties have met with the Commission staff on this matter. For instance, Verizon met with Commission staff in 2023 to discuss its concerns related to out-of-band emissions limits and the potential interference to terrestrial services in the 27.5–28.35 GHz adjacent band and a proposal to harmonize part 25 out-of-band emissions limits for NGSO ESIMs with out-of-band emission limits for terrestrial wireless operations, given the terrestrial operations in the 27.5–28.35 GHz band.

Because the *NGSO ESIM FNPRM* comment period closed more than five years ago, and in recognition of the subsequent changes to the terrestrial and ESIM environments during that period, we seek to refresh the record to ensure the record in this proceeding is current and complete.

**Request for Additional Comment.** Accordingly, the Space Bureau invites all stakeholders to update the record after reviewing the specific proposals, underlying analysis, and questions

contained in the *NGSO ESIM FNPRM*, as well as the existing record in this proceeding. The *NGSO ESIM FNPRM* presented a number of questions related to the current out of band emissions limits in § 25.202(f) and whether they would be sufficient to protect Upper Microwave Flexible Use Service (UMFUS) operations in the 27.5–28.35 GHz band. In addition, the *NGSO ESIM FNPRM* sought comment on what level of interference generated by out-of-band emissions from ESIM operations with NGSO space stations above 28.35 GHz would be acceptable for UMFUS receivers operating below 28.35 GHz without unduly constraining ESIM operations above 28.35 GHz. The *NGSO ESIM FNPRM* also sought comment on other issues related to harmful interference and whether UMFUS operators are developing any equipment with characteristics that make them less susceptible to adjacent band users. In addition to these questions, the *NGSO ESIM FNPRM* sought comment on issues related to guard bands, minimum elevation angle, aggregation interference, and how to specify out-of-band emissions limits.

We encourage interested parties to submit new or additional relevant information since the close of the previous comment period related to these and other questions laid out in the *NGSO ESIM FNPRM*. In addition, commenters are encouraged to submit new or additional relevant information about the present state of the UMFUS and ESIM environments, including the current or anticipated uses of these services. In addition, commenters are encouraged to provide any information gained since the close of the previous comment period related to the intensity of use of ESIMs in the 28.35–28.6 GHz band by both GSO and NGSO operators, as permitted. We also encourage commenters to provide any additional or new studies since the close of the previous comment period demonstrating protection criteria for ESIMs in the 28.35–28.6 GHz band that would protect adjacent band operations in the 27.5–28.35 GHz band.

Federal Communications Commission.

**Kerry Murray,**

*Deputy Chief and Chief of Staff, Space Bureau.*

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## FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

### 47 CFR Part 25

[SB Docket No. 25–305; DA 25–1060; FR ID 322962]

### Space Bureau Extends Comment and Reply Comment Deadlines for Notice of Proposed Rulemaking Regarding Facilitating More Intensive Use of Upper Microwave Spectrum

**AGENCY:** Federal Communications Commission.

**ACTION:** Notice; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In the document, the Space Bureau extends the comment and reply comment deadlines for the Facilitating More Intensive Use of Upper Microwave Spectrum Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in SB Docket No. 25–305, FCC 25–70, that was released on October 29, 2025 and published in the **Federal Register** on December 3, 2025.

**DATES:** The comment deadline for the proposed rule published December 3, 2025, at 90 FR 55702 is extended to January 20, 2026, and the extended reply comment deadline is February 18, 2026.

**ADDRESSES:** Pursuant to §§ 1.415 and 1.419 of the Commission’s rules, 47 CFR 1.415, 1.419, interested parties may file comments and reply comments on or before the dates indicated on the first page of this document. Comments may be filed using the Commission’s Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS). You may submit comments, identified by SB Docket No. 25–305, by any of the following methods:

- **Electronic Filers:** Comments may be filed electronically using the internet by accessing the ECFS: <https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs>.

- **Paper Filers:** Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and one copy of each filing.

- Filings can be sent by hand or messenger delivery, 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 sent to 45 L Street NE, Washington, DC 20554.

- *People with Disabilities*: To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an email to [fcc504@fcc.gov](mailto:fcc504@fcc.gov) or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202–418–0530.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jake Riehm, 202–418–2166, [Jake.Riehm@fcc.gov](mailto:Jake.Riehm@fcc.gov) or Kerry Murray, 202–418–0734, [Kerry.Murray@fcc.gov](mailto:Kerry.Murray@fcc.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This is a summary of the Commission's document (Public Notice), in SB Docket No. 25–305, DA 25–1060, released December 16, 2025. The document is available for public inspection online at <https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-25-1060A1.pdf>. The document is also available for inspection and copying during business hours in the FCC Reference Center, 45 L Street NE, Washington, DC 20554.

### Synopsis

1. In the document, the Space Bureau extends the deadlines for filing comments and reply comments for the Facilitating More Intensive Use of Upper Microwave Spectrum Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (*UMFUS NPRM*) in SB Docket No. 25–305 to January 20,

2026 and February 18, 2026, respectively.

2. On October 29, 2025, the Federal Communications Commission (Commission) released the *UMFUS NPRM* seeking comment on section 25.136 of the Commission's rules, which governs spectrum sharing between the terrestrial Upper Microwave Flexible Use Service and the Fixed Satellite Service. The *UMFUS NPRM* specified that comments and reply comments would be due 30 and 60 days after **Federal Register** publication. That publication occurred on December 3, 2025, announcing a comment filing deadline of January 2, 2026 and a reply comment date of February 2, 2026.

3. On December 11, 2025, CTIA requested extension of the comment and reply comment filing deadlines until January 20, 2026 and February 18, 2026. In its request, CTIA begins by noting that the issues in the *UMFUS NPRM* are complex and intersect with proposals contained in the simultaneously-adopted Notice of Proposed Rulemaking addressing Space Modernization (*Modernization NPRM*), which has a comment deadline of January 20, 2026 and a reply comment deadline of February 18, 2026. CTIA argues that that alignment of the pleading cycles for the *UMFUS NPRM* and the *Modernization NPRM* would allow commenters to provide integrated, consistent, and nonduplicative analyses in both proceedings, as well as a more fulsome

record for the Commission to review. CTIA also argues that the brief extension requested would not harm any other party in this proceeding, alter any substantive rights, or prejudice any participant. Finally, CTIA states that the requested deadline changes—extending the comment window by less than three weeks and the reply comment window by just over two weeks—would not cause significant delay or impede Commission consideration or timelines, as the new dates align with already-established dates for the *Modernization NPRM*.

4. As set forth in § 1.46(a) of the Commission's rules, the Commission's policy is that extensions of time shall not be routinely granted. The Space Bureau finds, however, that CTIA has provided sufficient justification to warrant grant of their requested extension. An extension would enable interested parties to present more complete comments to the Commission, and the Space Bureau agrees with CTIA that the extension should not disadvantage any party or cause significant delay in the resolution of this proceeding.

Federal Communications Commission.

**Kerry Murray,**

*Deputy Chief and Chief of Staff, Space Bureau.*

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