

Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of)	
)	
Expanding Flexible Use of the 12.2-12.7 GHz Band)	WT Docket No. 20-443
)	
Expanding Use of the 12.7-13.25 GHz Band for Mobile Broadband or Other Expanded Use)	GN Docket No. 22-352
)	

REPLY COMMENTS OF THE DYNAMIC SPECTRUM ALLIANCE

The Dynamic Spectrum Alliance (“DSA”)¹ hereby submits these reply comments in response to the Federal Communications Commission’s (“FCC” or “the Commission”) Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (“FNPRM”) in the above-captioned proceedings seeking

¹ The Dynamic Spectrum Alliance is a global, cross-industry alliance focused on increasing dynamic access to unused radio frequencies. The membership spans multinational companies, small- and medium-sized enterprises, academic, research, and other organizations from around the world, all working to create innovative solutions that will increase the utilization of available spectrum to the benefit of consumers and businesses alike. A full list of the DSA members is available on the DSA’s website at www.dynamicspectrumalliance.org/members/.

comments on how to expand use of the 12.2-12.7 GHz (12.2 GHz) and 12.7-13.25 GHz (12.7 GHz) bands.²

The DSA reiterates its strong support for the Commission’s efforts to expand use of both the 12.2 and 12.7 GHz bands and encourages the Commission to leverage proven automated shared spectrum technology to achieve two important goals: 1) protection of incumbent co-channel and adjacent channel systems and 2) increasing spectrum access options for a wide and diverse range of new users and business models.

The record in this proceeding shows broad support for the use of dynamic spectrum management, such as an Automated Frequency Coordination (“AFC”) system, to ensure protection of co-channel and adjacent channel incumbents. The record also shows support for novel licensing approaches, rather than exclusive licensing, to ensure broad access and foster competition.³ Together, these approaches will greatly increase spectrum access, jump-start 5G and successor technology ecosystem development, and lead to more rapid deployment of new networks, services, and innovative business models.

The DSA recommends that the Commission look to its experience with the Citizens Broadband Radio Service (“CBRS”) and appropriately tailor a spectrum management framework like the one that has made CBRS such a success to the 12.2 and 12.7 GHz bands. Contrary to

² *Expanding Flexible Use of 12.2-12.7 GHz Band*, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Order, 88 FR 43502 (2023). (“FNPRM”).

³ See Comments of 5G for 12 GHz Coalition, WT Docket No. 20-443 (filed Aug. 9, 2023); Comments of WISPA – BROADBAND WITHOUT BOUNDARIES, GN Docket No. 22-443 (filed Aug. 9, 2023); Comments of NCTA – The Internet & Television Association, GN Docket No. 22-443 (filed Aug. 9, 2023); Comments of Public Interest Organizations, GN Docket No. 22-443 (filed Aug. 10, 2023).

blatantly false statements that “complicated sharing mechanisms [that] would only hamper new licensees’ ability to use the 12.7 GHz band”⁴ or that “spectrum sharing frameworks in other bands, particularly in the CBRS band, are ‘not working as intended and [have] resulted in an underutilization of CBRS and a lack of innovative use cases that were promised,’” the CBRS spectrum sharing framework is a hallmark of U.S. regulatory and technological innovation.

With over 360,000 CBRS base stations deployed by more than 1200 different operators, ranging from wide area mobile broadband, to fixed wireless access, to smart cities, smart industry, education, healthcare, and military use cases, the nearly four years of commercial CBRS operations is evidence that efficient, intensive use of spectrum can best be realized through the introduction of new licensing options supported by automated dynamic spectrum sharing technology. The CBRS framework clearly demonstrates the effectiveness of the shared spectrum model pioneered by the Commission, which is being studied and adopted by national regulatory authorities worldwide and should be leveraged for the 12.2 GHz and 12.7 GHz bands.

The DSA encourages the Commission to pursue a shared framework for the 12.2 GHz and 12.7 GHz bands that benefits from the extensive experience from the use of automated dynamic spectrum management solutions in other bands. Doing so will “promote robust and efficient use of spectrum resources, minimize the potential for harmful interference” and “maximize competition by a diverse set of operators.”⁵ The DSA and its members stand ready to

⁴ See Comments of Ericsson, WT Docket No. 20-443 at 6 (filed Aug. 9, 2023); Comments of Competitive Carriers Association, WT Docket No. 20-443 at 5-6 (filed Aug. 9, 2023).

⁵ *In re Expanding Use of the 12.7-13.25 GHz Band for Mobile Broadband or Other Expanded Use*, Notice of Inquiry and Order, GN Docket No. 22-352, FCC 22-80, 31 (Oct. 27, 2022).

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assist the Commission in bringing the benefits of proven sharing frameworks to these bands to support the ongoing needs of innovative use cases.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Suarez', is written over a horizontal line.

Martha SUAREZ
President
Dynamic Spectrum Alliance

September 8, 2023