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Ottawa, ON, Canada K1A 0H5

Mr. Sol Lancashire  
Electricity Canada

June 4, 2024

**Re: Request to modify SRSP-301.7 channel plan and provide policy clarifications for 3GPP**

Dear Mr. Lancashire,

Thank you for your letter dated May 30, 2024, where you requested clarification on several questions related to ISED's spectrum policy for the 1800-1830 MHz frequency band. I have provided some clarifications below to each of the 3 questions raised.

**Question 1: "SRSP 301.7 is not compatible with the 3GPP channel raster which is based on 100kHz spacing."**

In your letter, you have correctly identified that the current channel plan for this frequency band is based on a 125 kHz channel raster. The original intent of this channel plan raster was to enable flexibility to licensees on what bandwidth to operate with and how to best accommodate multiple systems in the same area. Your proposal to adopt a 12.5 kHz raster appears to be aligned with this principle. Further, I note that an alternate possibility could also be to adopt a channel plan based on a 100 kHz raster, once it would be defined by 3GPP. Therefore, I can confirm ISED is open to revising SRSP-301.7 to modify the channel plan to better support new standardized equipment, taking into account feedback from other stakeholders.

**Question 2: "SRSP 301.7 is not paired spectrum does ISED permit FDD?"**

Although the channel plan in SRSP-301.7 for the 1800-1830 MHz band is not formulated based on paired channels, there is no provision within the SRSP to mandate the use of either TDD or FDD duplexing. As such, our current rules would permit FDD operation as long as the channel centre frequencies fall within the channel raster identified in the current edition of the SRSP. As identified in our response to your previous question, we are open to revising the SRSP to better clarify this and better take into account the channel plans of new standardized equipment, taking into account feedback from other stakeholders.

**Question 3: "Does ISED permit LTE and/or 5G in this band or is this a WiMAX band?"**

Similarly to our response for the previous question, SRSP-301.7 does not mandate the use of any specific communication protocol. As such, any of the protocols you have specified in your letter – as well as any others – could be used in the 1800-1830 MHz frequency band, as long as the radio system deployed is fixed and the other provisions of the SRSP are met.

I hope these responses address your questions, but please do not hesitate to follow up if further clarification is needed or if you have further questions. In conclusion, I am pleased to hear about these 3GPP standardization efforts to advance the development of radio equipment for the 1800-1830 MHz frequency band.

Sincerely,

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