



Baldwin County Commission
Communications and Information Systems Department
312 Courthouse Square, Suite 13
Bay Minette, AL 36507
(251) 937-9561

April 19, 2012

Federal Communications Commission
1270 Fairfield Rd.
Gettysburg, PA 17325

RE: STA Request

Baldwin County is requesting a Special Temporary Authority "STA" to use general use frequencies to continue to deploy its County wide 700 MHz system. The County currently has infrastructure in place throughout the County which is also connected to a like system in North Alabama. The infrastructure that has been put into place must be tested and implemented by the end of May 2012, in order to be ready for the beginning of hurricane season, which begins in June. Access to this system will be available to all Public Safety agencies in the County. This will allow and encourage interoperability throughout the County and beyond.

With hurricane season rapidly approaching there is an ever increasing need to be prepared to respond to these and other natural disasters that affect Baldwin County and its neighbors. The system will utilize Federal grant monies that must be disbursed by June 2012. The County has maximized re-use of State license frequencies, at this time, and will be utilizing general use frequencies for this additional build-out.

The County has filed for a permanent authorization however; those approvals will not be completed in time for system testing and start up, before the deadline of the Federal grant or the beginning of the 2012 hurricane season. The frequencies being applied for in this STA are part of the CAPRAD pre-allotment and are consistent with the Region 1 700 MHz Plan.

Based on the above outlined reasons, Baldwin County respectfully requests a favorable response to its STA request.

If you have any additional questions, feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Job
Communications and Information Systems
Assistant Director and Chief Operations Officer
251-580-2575
251-680-4276