



## *National Public Safety Telecommunications Council*

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Press Release

September 15, 2009

### **NPSTC Votes to Send 700 MHz Broadband Task Force Report to Public Safety Spectrum Trust**

The National Public Safety Telecommunications Council (NPSTC) voted today to accept the 700 MHz Broadband Network Requirement Task Force (BBTF) Report and send the report to the Public Safety Spectrum Trust (PSST).

NPSTC formed the BBTF to develop a set of minimum requirements for regional 700 MHz broadband networks that would ensure future interoperability and compatibility with the proposed national public safety broadband network. The need for such minimum overarching requirements developed as waiver requests began to materialize when a number of major cities in the United States filed waivers to build regional networks, following the auction that produced no winning bidder of the D Block license in early 2008.

The BBTF, created in June at NPSTC's quarterly meeting, had 60 days to complete the challenging task of developing governance, technical, and operational recommendations for early builders. The BBTF was open to all persons wishing to participate and included representatives of public safety, federal government, vendors, engineers, and consultants. All decisions were made by consensus of the members representing public safety entities. The report will now be reviewed by the PSST Board of Directors before the PSST Board adopts its recommendations for the Federal Communications Commission.

"The NPSTC Governing Board recognizes the dedication and effort that went into the development of the report and applauds the work of the committee chairs, vice chairs, and nearly 100 participants in the process. We are particularly grateful to the Task Force chairman, Dave Buchanan, for his leadership in delivering this document in the short timeframe required to keep the process on track," said Douglas Aiken, NPSTC Vice-Chair, who led the quarterly meeting of the NPSTC Governing Board.

The BBTF recommendations are designed to ensure that the regional networks will be interoperable and allow roaming as part of a nationwide broadband data system in the 700 MHz band and provide access to applications such as the Internet and VPN access to their home networks.

**NPSTC is a federation of organizations whose mission is to improve public safety communications and interoperability through collaborative leadership.**

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