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Process Overview

Transaction Team, Office of General Counsel

Welcome to the revised Transaction Team webpage. Here is where the Federal Communications Commission provides general information explaining how it considers applications to transfer licenses it had previously granted - through proceedings that can range from the small and uncontroversial to the very largest communications mergers. The page also provides ready access to the status and record of major pending transactions and to the documentary history of past transaction reviews.

Read more about the principles guiding the Commission's review of transactions in the blog post "FCC Transaction Review: Competition and the Public Interest".

Before a company may assign an FCC license to another company or acquire a company holding an FCC license, it must receive the Commission's approval. The Commission reviews applications for the transfer of control and assignment of licenses and authorizations to ensure that the public interest would be served by approving the applications. The vast majority of transfer of control and assignment applications are simple and unopposed and are processed quickly. These applications can be found by searching the Commission's online filing systems or by contacting the relevant Bureau. Some transactions, however, present more complex legal, economic or other public interest issues and are likely to elicit a significant amount of public comment, thus requiring more extensive Commission review. The Commission's Transaction Team helps ensure that the Commission's internal procedures for processing these more complex applications are transparent and uniform across its various bureaus.

The Commission has published a brief overview of how it reviews major transactions and a list of Frequently Asked Questions. Each major transaction has its own web page, listed below. While not the official public record of the proceeding, the web page includes relevant information about the specific transaction, including a short description, a timeline, and links to the applications, petitions, comments and other pleadings, ex parte filings and Commission orders and decisions. The Commission also maintains a chronological list of the final decisions in major transactions and an archive of the web pages of past major transactions. Web pages are usually archived six to twelve months after the Commission's final decision on the application or after the proceeding is no longer active. Links to these are found below.

Guides

- How to Access Public Documents
- How to File Public Comments
- How to File Applications

Current and Recent Transactions

- AT&T/DirecTV
- Charter/Time Warner Cable/Bright House
- DISH Build-out Monitoring
- Nexstar/Tribune
- SES/Intelsat
- Skydance/Paramount (CBS)
- Standard General/Tegna
- T-Mobile Condition Monitoring
- T-Mobile/Sprint
- T-Mobile/UScellular
- Verizon/TracFone Condition Monitoring

Major and Archived Transactions

- Major Transaction Decisions
- Archived Transactions

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