



NOTICE

Opening of New Spectrum Bands and Expressions of Interest

The Utilities Regulation and Competition Authority (URCA) published a document (ECS 23/2010) on October 1, 2010 which comprised (i) a public consultation document to solicit views on the procedures which should be adopted by URCA in respect of the opening of new spectrum bands and (ii) an Invitation of Expressions of Interest in spectrum in certain specified bands, namely:

- i. 700 MHz;
- ii. 11 GHz;
- iii. 12 GHz; and,
- iv. 40 GHz.

URCA apologizes for the delay in concluding the consultation which differs from the date URCA originally anticipated for conclusion expressed in the consultation document. However, interested parties have raised significant concerns regarding URCA's approach and those concerns have required careful assessment by URCA, which have led URCA to re-examine its proposed approach.

URCA is continuing its review of responses to the consultation document and will endeavour to publish the Statement of Results on the consultation in February. However URCA wishes to clarify that the intent and effect of the Invitation of Expressions of Interest was to estimate the existing demand, if any, for the specific bands included. The spectrum bands under consideration in the Invitation for Expressions of Interest comprised certain bands (currently classified as standard spectrum in the Spectrum Plan) in which there are no existing frequency assignments, and which URCA may consider opening at an early stage following completion of the consultation on the Opening of New Spectrum Bands.

The Invitation of Expressions of Interest was not intended to solicit applications for licences in respect of any of the bands included, nor should it be considered as an expression of intent or commitment by URCA to open any band.

Therefore until such time as URCA, having completed and published Guidelines on the Opening of New Spectrum Bands, has explicitly stated that a particular spectrum band is open for licensing, URCA **cannot** accept application(s) for the use of said band. Any applications submitted for spectrum within a band which has not been opened for licensing shall be returned without consideration. Interested parties are asked to periodically check the URCA website at www.urbahamas.bs for updates on the Opening of New Spectrum Bands.