



Request for Applications – FM Radio Broadcast Frequencies

ECS 08/2021

Issue Date: 9 July 2021

Deadline for Applications: 13 August 2021

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1. Introduction

The Utilities Regulations and Competition Authority (URCA) issues this document comprising a Request for Applications (“RFA”) for an Individual Spectrum Licence (ISL) to use the frequency 90.7 MHz or 105.7 MHz in the FM Radio Broadcast Band (88 MHz – 108 MHz) to provide FM radio broadcast service in the island of New Providence, Bahamas.

The method for assigning the frequencies will be based on a weighted comparative selection or “Beauty Contest” and the ISL will be granted to the applicants who meet the best criteria set out in this RFA. URCA considers that the method and criteria established under this RFA process will provide a fair and transparent means of assigning the FM frequencies, whereby all interested applicants will be given equal opportunity regarding the competitive process for each of the frequencies.

1.1 Background

In 2014 URCA considered that the simplified and transparent regulatory process under the new licensing regime for the issuance of radio spectrum to FM radio broadcasters facilitated the relatively easy market entry for FM radio broadcasters. URCA recognized that there was an increased potential for harmful interference of transmission between FM radio broadcast stations, particularly in New Providence, unless it restricted the number of FM radio broadcasters and establish technical standards for FM radio broadcasting in The Bahamas.

On 27 March 2014, URCA issued a Public Notice to notify the public of the exhaustion and unavailability of frequencies in the spectrum band 88 MHz to 108 MHz for use in New Providence. Pursuant to the Public Notice, URCA advised the public that where there is insufficient spectrum band to meet industry demand and URCA is required to limit the number of licences that may be issued in that band, URCA is required under section 26(5) of the Communications Act, 2009 (“Comms Act”) to adopt a competitive process to award spectrum in order to ensure fair and efficient spectrum allocation and to ensure that the spectrum is awarded to the party which is most qualified or capable of using the spectrum in a manner that will benefit consumers and the electronic communications sector in The Bahamas. URCA further notified the public that should FM radio spectrum band frequencies become available for

allocation in New Providence, URCA will commence a competitive process for the allocation of those spectrum frequencies and will duly notify the public of the details of that process, which may involve auctions, “beauty contests” or a combination of both.

On 25 March 2019, having regard to the potential for harmful interference of transmission between FM radio broadcast stations, URCA established its Technical Standards Framework for FM Radio Broadcasting in The Bahamas. The Statement of Results and Final Decision¹ document was published simultaneously with the standalone Technical Standards for FM Radio Broadcasting in The Bahamas². Pursuant to URCA’s Statement of Results and Final Decision (ECS 03/2019), all licensees providing FM radio broadcast services in The Bahamas are required to comply with the FM Radio Technical Standards in order to prevent harmful interference of transmissions between FM radio broadcast stations.

During June 2021, URCA conducted spectrum monitoring surveys and a technical analysis of the FM band 88 MHz to 108 MHz in New Providence to determine licensee compliance with the FM Radio Technical Standards and to determine whether there was existing harmful interference between FM radio broadcasters. URCA also issued a Request for Information to each FM broadcaster in order to, inter alia, obtain written confirmation of compliance with the FM Technical Standards and that the broadcasters were not experiencing harmful interference.

Based on the results of URCA’s band survey, technical analysis of the FM band and the said confirmations from the FM radio broadcasters, URCA has determined that the frequencies 90.7 MHz and 105.7 MHz in the 88 MHz – 108 MHz band are now available for FM radio broadcast services in the island of New Providence.

1.2 Overview of the Application Process

URCA considers that the process for the issuance for an ISL to use the frequency 90.7 MHz or 105.7 MHz in the FM Radio Broadcast Band to provide FM radio broadcast services in the island of New Providence should comprise an RFA process, which will allow for a competitive

¹ ECS 03/2019

² ECS 04/2019

assessment of applicants based on the likelihood that the demand for use of the said frequencies will exceed the available supply.

The nature of the spectrum allocation and the conditions on its use mean that the successful applicants will also require a Class Operating Licence Not Requiring Registration (COLNRR), in addition to the ISL for the use of FM radio broadcast frequency.

URCA will conduct a qualitative assessment of each application received in accordance with this RFA and will score the application based on the criteria set out in Section 3. Licences will then be granted (including the COLNRR required) to the successful applicants.

Subject to the Application Requirements set out in Section 3 of this RFA, Applicants are now invited to submit applications for a COLNRR and an ISL to use the FM frequency 90.7 MHz or 105.7 MHz in New Providence, which must be submitted in accordance with the provisions of this RFA.

1.3 Submission Requirements

The applicant must submit its application and all associated documents to URCA in accordance with the following **ONLY**:

1. **THREE (3) PRINTED COPIES** of the Application, placed in **sealed, opaque packages** marked:
APPLICATION FOR FM FREQUENCY (PRINTED COPY)
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
UTILITIES REGULATION AND COMPETITION AUTHORITY
FREDERICK HOUSE, FREDERICK STREET
NASSAU, BAHAMAS

2. **COMPLETE APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY NO LATER THAN 3:00 PM (BAHAMAS TIME) ON THE CLOSING DATE OF 13 AUGUST 2021. LATE APPLICATIONS OR SUBMISSIONS SHALL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

Only physical submissions are accepted and only in accordance with the above. In no circumstances should an applicant submit its application or any part thereof to any person at URCA via email, fax, or any other method of submission whether in addition to or instead of the above. **Failure to comply with all of the above submission requirements (including packaging) may result in rejection or disqualification of the application.**

1.4 Information of Clarification

Requests for further information of clarification of this RFA, should be submitted to:

Mr. Donavon R. Dorsett

Regulatory Advisor - Legal

Utilities Regulation and Competition Authority

Frederick House, Frederick Street

Nassau, Bahamas

Email: ddorsett@urcabahamas.bs

Tel: 242.393.5213

Fax: 242.393.0153

Requests for further information or clarification will be accepted no later than 19 July 2021. URCA will issue its response on or before 23 July 2021, and the request and URCA's response thereto will be published on URCA's website.

1.5 Time Schedule for RFA Process

This RFA process is expected to follow the time schedule set out in the Table below:

Deadline for requests for Information of Clarification	19 July 2021
Deadline for response to requests for Information of Clarification	23 July 2021
Deadline for submission of Applications	13 August 2021
URCA's estimated timeline for Evaluation and Selection	20 August 2021
Decision and Notification of successful Applicants	23 August 2021
Issuance of licences	30 August 2021

2. General Information

2.1 Overview of the Regulatory Framework

2.1.1 Establishment of URCA as the ECS Regulator

URCA was established as an independent regulatory body on 1 August 2009, following the promulgation of the Utilities Regulation and Competition Authority Act, 2009. The Communications Act, 2009 (Comms Act), which came into force on 1 September 2009, gave URCA full powers of regulation and of oversight of the Electronic Communications Sector (ECS) in The Bahamas. The ECS covers radio and television broadcasting, radio spectrum management, internet and data services, pay television and voice telephony. The remainder of Section 2.1 provides a brief overview, with appropriate references to further reading, or the framework as it applies to licensing and spectrum management.

2.1.2 Licensing of Operators

Part IV of the Comms Act empowers URCA to licence persons who are involved in the electronic communications sector in The Bahamas. Persons who establish, maintain and operate networks, provide carriage services, or use radio spectrum require a licence from URCA, unless they are exempt from licensing by virtue of the Comms Act or an URCA exemption.

URCA has established the *“Guidelines on the Licensing Regime under the Communications Act, 2009”* (ECS 19/2017)³ which provide for the granting of operating licences, which permit the establishment, maintenance and operation of networks or the provision of carriage services; and spectrum licences which permit and authorize the use of specific spectrum either on a shared or exclusive basis. Samples of the specific forms of licences that may be granted by URCA are available on URCA’s website⁴.

2.1.3 Spectrum Management

Section 29 of the Comms Act established URCA as having the exclusive right to manage,

³ <http://www.urbahamas.bs/download/009075400.pdf>

⁴ <http://www.urbahamas.bs/licencing.php?cat=123>

allocate and assign all frequencies in the radio spectrum in The Bahamas, subject to certain specific tasks which are the responsibility of the Minister of Government charged with responsibility for the ECS⁵.

Section 26(5) of the Comms Act requires URCA, when exercising its powers under section 29, to select licensees for individual licences pursuant to a competitive selection process where URCA intends to restrict the number of individual licences to be granted for the right to use the same or similar radio spectrum.

Section 32 provides that URCA, or the Minister as the case may be, must ensure that spectrum is managed and used in a manner that –

- is open, objective, transparent and non-discriminatory;
- is economically efficient and facilitates the evolution of new technologies and electronic communications services whilst taking into account particular investment in existing equipment configured for specific radio spectrum and the cost of migration to other radio spectrum; and
- meets the needs of certain specified government departments and agencies.

On 20 March 2020, URCA published the “*National Radio Spectrum Plan (2020 – 2023) - ECS 02/2020*”⁶ in accordance with section 31 of the Comms Act, which provides for the allocation of the spectrum in accordance with the applicable international treaties, commitments and standards including, without limitation, those of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU). URCA has set out in the National Spectrum Plan the frequency allocation for FM Broadcasting⁷.

2.1.4 Licence Terms and Conditions

URCA shall grant an ISL for frequencies in the 88 MHz to 108 MHz FM band in accordance with URCA’s Licensing Guidelines in force from time to time which include,

⁵ The Minister is responsible for deciding the method of allocation and spectrum fees for frequencies in the premium spectrum band of the spectrum plan the premium spectrum band of the spectrum plan.

⁶ <http://www.urbahamas.bs/download/021094100.pdf>

⁷ See Appendix A: The National Frequency Allocation Table @ p.70 - 71.

but is not limited to, the following terms and conditions:

- the ISL shall be National in scope, that is the Licensee will not be required to apply for another ISL to provide FM radio broadcast services in other islands of The Bahamas;
- the spectrum is geographically limited and must be used for the provision of FM radio broadcast services in accordance with the terms and conditions of the ISL⁸. The assigned frequencies under this RFA process are geographically limited for use in New Providence and the Licensee will have to apply to URCA for the use of the frequency on each or any other island in The Bahamas; and
- the Licensee must put the frequency into active use within twelve (12) months of the date on which the licences are granted, failing which URCA will commence proceedings to vacate the spectrum without compensation pursuant to Section 36 of the Comms Act, and revoke the grant of the licenses.

2.1.5 Regulatory Fees

Further to the selection of the successful applicants, URCA will invoice the successful applicants for the standard licence application processing fee, in accordance with the Fee Schedule⁹, in the amount of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00). The successful applicants will also be invoiced on a pro rata basis for the spectrum fee for 2021¹⁰. **Both fees are required to be paid by the successful applicants prior to the issuance of the licences.**

The spectrum fee is an annual fee invoiced by URCA in accordance with the Fee Schedule in force at the time and shall be payable until such time as URCA's Fee Schedule is amended to reflect a revised fee for spectrum assignments in the FM radio band.

⁸ See section 2.10.2 of URCA's Licensing Guidelines – ECS 19/2017 for further information.

⁹ Fee Schedule – URCA 01/2021.

¹⁰ Pro-rated fee for the remainder of 2021 will be calculated on the annual price of FM radio spectrum for use in New Providence in the amount \$1,700, determined at the date of invoicing.

3. Application Requirements

3.1 General

This RFA document invites qualified persons to apply for an Individual Spectrum Licence (ISL) to use the frequency 90.7 MHz or 105.7 MHz to provide FM radio broadcast service in the island of New Providence, Bahamas. A Class Operating Licence Not Requiring Registration (COLNRR) will also be required for the provision of the electronic communications services to the public using the said frequencies.

Therefore, applicants are required to complete and submit an URCA Licence Application Form¹¹ along with their application in response to this RFA. Such application will be considered concurrently with URCA's assessment of the application within the RFA process. A copy of the Licence Application Form is attached as Annex A. Applications must be submitted to URCA fully in accordance with the RFA by the response deadline, as set out in section 1.3 of this RFA.

3.2 Structure of Application

Applications shall be written in English and shall contain, at a minimum, the following information which must be organised in Parts labeled as set out below:

Part A – General Information

- A.1 Incorporation: Provide detailed information regarding the incorporation of the applicant: Provide full company incorporation (i.e., copy of Certificate of Incorporation and Certificate of Good Standing), and business registration information.¹²
- A.2 Contact Details and Location: Provide contact details for the applicant and information which outlines the control and guidance of the applicant. The applicant must demonstrate that the administration and management of the applicant's business as licensed will be in The Bahamas.¹³
- A.3 Ownership: Provide details of the applicant's ownership:

¹¹ ECS 2/2011.

¹² Note section 26(3)(a) of the Communications Act, 2009, and URCA's Licensing Guidelines (ECS 19/2017).

¹³ Note section 26(3)(b) of the Communications Act, 2009, and URCA's Licensing Guidelines (ECS 19/2017).

- Identify all shareholders of the applicant if private, or for a public company, all shareholders owning more than 5% of the issued share capital, including names, addresses and shareholding.
- Provide a diagram of the ownership of the company and its associated companies, showing parent, subsidiary and associated or affiliated companies.

Part B – Programme Content

- B.1 Broadcasting Plan: Provide a broadcasting plan that sets out the genre of the programming, in particular but not limited to, qualitative content, diversity of programmes and own programmes with respect to content development.
- B.2 Compliance Plan: Provide a strategic plan for compliance with URCA’s Technical Standards for FM Radio Broadcasting in The Bahamas – ECS 04/2019, and URCA’s Code of Practice for Content Regulation (Revised) – ECS 08/2020.

Part C – Financial Strength

- C.1 Financial Statements: For an existing incorporated company, provide complete audited Financial Statements for the applicant for the preceding three (3) financial years. If the applicant is newly incorporated, provide audited financial statements for any holding or parent company, if applicable.
- C.2 Financial Resources: Provide details, including suitable proof, of the financial resources available to the applicant. The application will be assessed on the extent to which it demonstrates the applicant’s ability to access the necessary financial resources to carry out the business plan set out in the application, and the requirements that will be imposed by the licence (see Section 2.1.4 above).
- C.3 Financial References: Provide two (2) original credit reference letters from recognized, regulated financial institutions. References must be addressed to URCA’s Chief Executive Officer and must be dated no more than thirty (30) calendar days prior to the date of the application.

Part D – Technical Capability

- D.1 Track Record and Experience: Provide details of the track record and experience of the Applicant in radio broadcasting and/or operating a radio broadcasting station in The

Bahamas, or in any other jurisdiction. In demonstrating such experience, the applicant may rely upon the experience of the applicant itself; the experience of the parent, subsidiary or affiliate of the applicant; and/or the experience of the directors and executive team of the applicant, provided that where the applicant relies on any group company the application should make clear the manner in which such expertise would be made available to the applicant in The Bahamas.

D.2 Technical Proposal: Submit a detailed description of the technical infrastructure to be used/built to provide the services to be offered by the applicant, which includes:

- *Network/System Design*:
 - Planned technical equipment and specifications (transmitters, antenna, etc.);
 - Network configuration (including power limits, antenna directivity set to avoid harmful interference);
 - Description and specifications of the technology that will be used;
 - A network overview which includes information on the proposed network topology, proposed broadcast transmission links between other islands serviced; and
 - Any likely additional spectrum requirements, e.g., for studio transmission link (STL). Applications for such spectrum should be submitted separately after the end of the RFA process.
- *Roll-out plan*: The applicant must demonstrate its intention and ability to achieve, at a minimum, the roll-out requirements set out in section 2.1.4 above.
 - Provide a detailed description of the applicant's network roll-out plan.

Part E – Business Plan

E.1 Strategic Plan: Provide the strategic vision for the long run of the radio broadcast station as well as the aims for developing and providing content that meets the tastes and interest of the targeted audience of the radio broadcast station. The Strategic plan should also include, but is not limited to, the following:

- insights with respect to attracting advertising and promotional support;
- intended investments and the prospects with respect to revenue generation; and
- a high-level marketing plan.

- E.2 Personnel Plans: Provide personnel plans showing experience of media personnel in respect of radio broadcasting, the availability of and/or access to adequate technical and other related expertise. The applicant should identify the extent to which Bahamian employees will be used in the business specifying Executive, Management and Staff levels.

Part F – Other Information

Applicants may submit any additional plans or information regarding its proposed services, which the applicant considers will be to the social, cultural and/or economic benefit of The Bahamas, and which the applicant wishes URCA to consider in its assessment of the application.

3.3 Selection Criteria

URCA will assess the information provided in its assessment of the applicant. The criteria for applications are as follows:

Basic Criteria – Comms Act, section 26(3)

URCA will determine, based on the information set out in the application and its own enquiries (as appropriate), whether the applicant meets the following requirements:

- The applicant must be a legal entity incorporated in The Bahamas;
- The applicant must conduct the administration and management of the business from premises in The Bahamas; and
- The applicant must be a “fit and proper person” to establish, maintain and operate a network or carriage system or use radio spectrum.

Special Criteria

URCA will determine, based on the information set out in the application and its own enquiries (as appropriate), whether the applicant meets the following requirements:

- The applicant must **NOT** hold (directly or through affiliates, association or shareholding) any interest, controlling or otherwise, in other licences for FM radio broadcasting in The Bahamas; and

- Programming content should be developed with a strong emphasis on previously unmet needs and interests of listeners within the intended area of radio broadcast services.

Qualitative Criteria

- Programme Content (30%) – The applicant has provided a broadcasting plan that sets out the genre of programming and content development that may distinguish it from existing FM radio broadcasters. URCA will assess the programme content of the applicant based on the information provided in the application, in particular Part B.
- Financial Strength (30%) – The applicant demonstrates the necessary financial resources to provide the radio broadcast services and meet all roll-out and any other commitments contained in the application and the licence. URCA will assess the financial capacity of the applicant based on the information provided in the application, in particular Part C assessed against the background of plans set out in Parts D, E and F.
- Technical Capability (30%) – The applicant has put forward a sound technical plan for coverage and service provision using the spectrum, and has demonstrated the technical resources and expertise to implement it. URCA will assess the technical capability of the applicant based on the information provided in the application, in particular but not necessarily limited to, Part D.
- Other Benefits (10%) – The applicant will generally enhance Bahamian society consistent with ECS Policy Objectives (e.g., jobs, activity in underserved communities, community development and betterment). URCA will assess this criterion using information provided under Parts B, C, D, E and F.

Selection Criteria	Marks
Programme Content	30
Financial Strength	30
Technical Capability	30
Other Benefits	10
Total	100

3.4 Evaluation and Selection Process

The process of evaluation, selection and issuance of licensees pursuant to this RFA process will take place in the following two stages:

Stage 1. Evaluation and Selection

URCA will review and assess the applications received based on the criteria set out in section 3.3 above and will issue written notification to the successful applicants in relation to URCA's selection.

Information relating to the comparison, evaluation and scores of applications by URCA will not be disclosed to applicants or any other person not officially concerned with this RFA process.

Any effort by an applicant or any person acting on behalf of an applicant to, directly or indirectly, influence URCA in the comparison, evaluation and scores of applications or the issuance of licences pursuant to this RFA process may result in the immediate rejection of its application.

Stage 2: Issuance of Licences

Successful applicants will be required to pay all regulatory fees referred to in section 2.1.5 above within five (5) calendar days of being invoiced by URCA.

Subject to Stage 1 above, URCA will grant the appropriate licences to the successful applicants upon payment of the said fees. **Failure or refusal by a successful applicant to pay the fees, as invoiced by URCA, may result in the issuance of the licences to the applicant with the next highest scores.**

URCA expects to grant the licences to the successful applicants on or before 30 August 2021.

Annex A

Licence Application Form



LICENCE APPLICATION FORM

ECS 2/2011

Pursuant to the Communications Act 2009

Please tick as appropriate:

New Applicant	<input type="checkbox"/>
Existing Licensee making new application (See guidance note #3 below)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Existing Licensee applying for Spectrum only (See guidance note #4 below)	<input type="checkbox"/>

Guidance Notes

- 1) The completed application form should be submitted to:
Utilities Regulation & Competition Authority
Frederick House
Frederick Street
P. O. Box N - 4860
Nassau, Bahamas
- 2) The completed application form must be accompanied by a licence application fee, payable to Utilities Regulation and Competition Authority (URCA). Details of the relevant fees can be found in the Fee Schedule on the URCA website.
- 3) **Existing Licensee making new application** – applicable to current licensees making application for a new service.
- 4) **Existing Licensee applying for Spectrum only** - applicable to the holder of an Individual Spectrum Licence applying for additional Spectrum. The Individual Spectrum Licence holder need only to complete **Parts A, B and E** of this form.
- 5) This application form should be read in conjunction with the Licensing Guidelines (ECS 15/2009) and Fee Schedule as published from time to time on the URCA website.
- 6) Should there be questions or concerns regarding this form, please contact our office at telephone number: (242) 393 0234, email address: info@urcabahamas.bs or visit our website at www.urbahamas.bs

PART A – TO BE COMPLETED IN FULL BY ALL APPLICANTS

(Please complete in type or block letters)

SECTION 1 - CONTACT DETAILS	
Name of applicant:	
Address of applicant: (Street Name/Postal Address/ Building Number/Island/Registered Office)	
Contact person:	
Telephone Number(s):	
Fax Number:	
Email address:	
Website address:	

SECTION 2 - PERSONAL DETAILS (applicable where applicant is not a company) [NOTE: Please provide copies of identification page(s) of passport]	
Nationality:	
Date of birth:	
National Insurance number:	
Passport Number:	
Occupation:	

SECTION 3 - BUSINESS DETAILS	
State whether the applicant is a company, sole proprietorship, partnership, joint venture, non-profit organisation or other:	
Business Licence Number:	

NOTE: Where applicant is a company, please provide the following:

- i. Copy of a Business Licence (or receipt of payment for pending Business Licence);
- ii. Certificate of Incorporation

Where applicant is a sole trader, please provide the following:

- i. Copy of Business Licence (or receipt of payment for pending Business Licence);
- ii. Copy of Certificate of Registration (i.e. Registered Business name)

PART B – SERVICE(S) FOR WHICH APPLICATION IS SUBMITTED – TO BE COMPLETED BY NEW APPLICANTS AND EXISTING LICENSEES

SECTION 1 - TYPE OF SERVICE (Please specify by ticking the appropriate box)

<input type="checkbox"/> Broadband Wireless	<input type="checkbox"/> Broadcasting Station (AM/FM Radio)	<input type="checkbox"/> Broadcasting Station (Television)	<input type="checkbox"/> Backhaul
<input type="checkbox"/> Cellular/Mobile Networks	<input type="checkbox"/> Fixed Voice	<input type="checkbox"/> Fixed Wireless Access	<input type="checkbox"/> Internet Service Provider (ISP)
<input type="checkbox"/> Pay Television	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepaid Calling Card Services (Own Branding)	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Land Base	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Paging
<input type="checkbox"/> Private Trunking	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Fixed Network	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Paging	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Pay Phone
<input type="checkbox"/> Public Trunking	<input type="checkbox"/> Resale of services (Voice/Data)	<input type="checkbox"/> Service Providers requiring Number resources	<input type="checkbox"/> Submarine Cable Networks
<input type="checkbox"/> Transmission Capacity for Other Licenced Operators (OLOs)	<input type="checkbox"/> Wi-Fi Networks <input type="checkbox"/> VSAT	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please specify): _____ _____	

INFORMATION ON EXISTING SERVICE TYPE – ONLY TO BE COMPLETED BY EXISTING LICENSEES

SECTION 2 - TYPE OF EXISTING SERVICE (Please specify by ticking the appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Broadband Wireless	<input type="checkbox"/> Broadcasting Station (AM/FM Radio)	<input type="checkbox"/> Broadcasting Station (Television)	<input type="checkbox"/> Backhaul
<input type="checkbox"/> Cellular/Mobile Networks	<input type="checkbox"/> Fixed Voice	<input type="checkbox"/> Fixed Wireless Access	<input type="checkbox"/> Internet Service Provider (ISP)
<input type="checkbox"/> Pay Television	<input type="checkbox"/> Prepaid Calling Card Services (Own Branding)	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Land Base	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Paging
<input type="checkbox"/> Private Trunking	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Fixed Network	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Paging	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Pay Phone
<input type="checkbox"/> Public Trunking	<input type="checkbox"/> Resale of services (Voice/Data)	<input type="checkbox"/> Service Providers requiring Number resources	<input type="checkbox"/> Submarine Cable Networks
<input type="checkbox"/> Transmission Capacity for Other Licenced Operators (OLOs)	<input type="checkbox"/> Wi-Fi Networks <input type="checkbox"/> VSAT	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Please specify): _____ _____	

Licence Number (if applicable)	
Date issued:	

PART C – APPLICANT HISTORY

- i. **APPLICANTS NOT PROVIDING SERVICE TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMERCIAL GAIN ARE ONLY REQUIRED TO COMPLETE SECTION 1 OF PART C**
- ii. **ALL OTHER APPLICANTS ARE TO COMPLETE ALL SECTIONS OF PART C.**

SECTION 1 - HISTORY OF APPLICANT

Has the applicant been convicted of any criminal offence; particular consideration will be given to offences of dishonesty, fraud, financial crime or an offence whether or not in The Bahamas or offences under legislation relating to electronic communications networks, carriage services or content services?

YES NO If yes, please provide details: _____

Is the applicant, or has the applicant been the subject of any proceedings of a disciplinary or criminal nature, or has been notified of any potential proceedings or of any investigation which might lead to those proceedings?

YES NO If yes, please provide details: _____

Has the applicant contravened any of the requirements and standards of the electronic communications regulatory system or the equivalent standards or requirements of other regulatory authorities (including a previous regulator), professional bodies, or government bodies or agencies? YES NO

If yes, please provide details: _____

SECTION 2 - HISTORY OF APPLICANT (cont'd)

Has the applicant been the subject of any adverse finding or any settlement in civil proceedings, particularly in connection with investment or other financial business, misconduct, fraud or the formation or management of a body corporate? YES NO If yes, please provide details: _____

Has the applicant been refused the right to carry on a trade, business or profession requiring a licence, registration or other authority whether, as a result of the removal of the relevant licence, registration or other authority?

YES NO If yes, please provide details: _____

Has the applicant been a director, partner, or concerned in the management, of a business that has gone into insolvency, liquidation or administration while the person has been connected with that organisation or within one year of that connection? YES NO If yes, please provide details: _____

Has the applicant ever been disqualified from acting as a director or disqualified from acting in any managerial capacity? YES NO If yes, please provide details: _____

SECTION 3 - INFORMATION FOR APPLICANT CREDIT CHECK

Primary Bank details (name of bank, branch): _____

Name of applicant's commercial loan officer/bank manager/relationship manager (as appropriate):

Telephone contact of applicant's commercial loan officer/bank manager/relationship manager:

NOTE: Please provide a bank reference letter with this application.

SECTION 4 - IN ADDITION TO THE BANK REFERENCE LETTER, PLEASE PROVIDE THE DETAILS OF TWO CREDIT REFERENCES

Credit reference number 1

Contact name, Telephone Number(s) and Address: _____

Credit reference number 2

Contact name, Telephone Number(s) and Address: _____

For URCA's Credit Use Only

Payment of licence fees up to date – YES/NO (delete as appropriate)	
If NO, amount outstanding and date of last payment made:	

APPROVED	
Credit Line:	Terms:
Approved by:	Date:
DENIED:	
Denied by:	Date:
Reasons for denial:	

Rejection letter sent by:	Date:
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PART D – APPLICANT’S PROPOSED SERVICES AND/OR NETWORK – ONLY TO BE COMPLETED BY:

- i. **NEW APPLICANT INTENDING TO PROVIDE SERVICE TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMERCIAL GAIN**
- ii. **EXISTING LICENSEE INTENDING TO PROVIDE SERVICE TO THE PUBLIC FOR COMMERCIAL GAIN**

SECTION 1 - APPLICANT’S ACTIVITIES IN THE ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS SECTOR

CURRENT ACTIVITIES IN THE ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS SECTOR YES NO

CURRENT ACTIVITIES IN THE ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS SECTOR

Please provide answers to the following questions in relation to:
(Answers should be provided on separate sheets)

Applicant

- The applicant’s activities in The Bahamas;
- The applicant’s activities elsewhere in the world.

Services

- Please provide details of the products and services being provided by the applicant

Networks

- Please provide a summary and diagrammatic representation of the infrastructure, including radio-based infrastructure

SECTION 2 - APPLICANT’S PROPOSED ACTIVITIES IN THE ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS SECTOR

Services

- Please provide a description of each proposed service, including details on the following:
 - all technical aspects of the services (including equipment);
 - how customers will access the services;
 - information on competing products and providers;
 - targeted customer base, including number of customers targeted.

Networks

- Please provide a summary and diagrammatic representation of the network and systems that the applicant is planning to put in place within the next three (3) years, including radio-based infrastructure

SECTION 3 - FINANCIAL INFORMATION AND BUSINESS PLAN

Please provide a comprehensive business plan. The plan should set out any assumptions used and should cover a period of at least three (3) years.

The information provided **must** include (with independent confirmation as appropriate):

- Sources of funding;
- Financial projections for three (3) years to include revenues, capital investments, and cash flow; and
- Market assumptions and forecast.

Please provide a diagrammatic representation of the applicant's company structure.

Please provide the names of shareholders with at least 10% of issued shares and their percentage shareholding.

Does the applicant have any shareholdings of over 5% in any other licensed electronic communications provider in The Bahamas? YES NO If yes, please provide details: _____

PART E – SPECTRUM ALLOCATION – TO BE COMPLETED BY ALL LICENCE APPLICANTS REQUIRING SPECTRUM

SECTION 1 - HISTORY OF THE APPLICANT

Has the applicant ever applied for and been granted a spectrum licence in The Bahamas?
 YES NO If yes, please provide details: _____

Has any such licence been revoked? YES NO If yes, please provide details: _____

SECTION 2 - APPLICANT PROPOSED ACTIVITIES

Please describe the intended use of any spectrum allocation (i.e. services for which the required spectrum will be used)

REQUESTED SPECTRUM BAND AND RANGE (if applicable)

Frequency Band: _____

Frequency Range: _____

SECTION 3 - POINT TO MULTIPOINT

Please specify by ticking the type of service most appropriate for the spectrum allocation you require.

Type of Application

<input type="checkbox"/> Broadband Wireless	<input type="checkbox"/> Broadcasting (AM/FM Radio)	<input type="checkbox"/> Broadcasting (Television)
<input type="checkbox"/> Cellular/ Mobile Networks	<input type="checkbox"/> Fixed Wireless Access	<input type="checkbox"/> Internet Service Provider (ISP)
<input type="checkbox"/> Pay Television	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Land Base	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Paging
<input type="checkbox"/> Private Trunking	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Fixed Network	<input type="checkbox"/> Public Paging
<input type="checkbox"/> Public Trunking	<input type="checkbox"/> WiFi Networks	

Other (Please specify):

SECTION 3 - POINT TO MULTIPOINT (cont'd)

Location			
	Base Station Address (Island/Street/Building Name/No.)	Lower Frequency	Upper Frequency
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			

PLEASE PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION FOR WHICH THE REQUESTED SPECTRUM WILL BE USED:

	Transmit Location	Coverage Area [Island(s)]	Bandwidth	Antenna Azimuth (s)
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				

	Modulation Technology (eg. GSM, AM, FM, etc.)	Co-ordinates				Effective Radiated Power E(I)RP
		Latitude (x)	Longitude (x)	Latitude (y)	Longitude (y)	
1.						
2.						
3.						
4.						

SECTION 4 - POINT TO POINT

Type of Application						
<input type="checkbox"/>	Private Fixed Station	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Fixed Station	<input type="checkbox"/>	Backhaul	
Other (Please specify): _____						

Location		Co-ordinates				Antenna
	Site Address	Latitude (x)	Longitude (x)	Latitude (y)	Longitude (y)	Height (ft)
1.						
2.						
3.						
4.						

SECTION 4 - POINT TO POINT (cont'd)

	Frequency (MHz)			Effective Radiated Power
	Transmit	Receive	Bandwidth	E(I)RP of Tx's
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				

SECTION 5 – SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS

Type of Application

Earth Station
 VSAT

Other (Please specify)

	Site Address	Name of satellite and administrator	Uplink (MHz)	Downlink (MHz)	Bandwidth	Effective Radiated Power E(I)RP of Tx's
1.						
2.						
3.						

Additional Information: