

Title: Managing Radio Amplification Systems

Index: 204-L

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1. Purpose

It is PCWIN policy to review and approve the design and implementation of any signal boosters, also referred to as bi-directional amplifiers (BDA), used to retransmit Pima County or City of Tucson licensed frequencies that are part of the PCWIN system. As an FCC licensee, PCWIN is subject to Federal regulations. Specifically, and for purposes of this policy, PCWIN and its members are responsible to comply with regulation 47CFR90.219 "Use of Signal Boosters." According to FCC regulation 47CFR90.219, anyone operating a signal booster to retransmit PCWIN licensed frequencies must have the consent of PCWIN. In addition, Part 90 Class B signal boosters (non-channelized BDAs) must be registered through the FCC Signal Booster Registration & Discovery website.

PCWIN reserves the right to verify signal boosters have been properly engineered and do not create interference by performing site

2. Background

The FCC recognizes two basic classes of signal boosters. The FCC defines Class A signal boosters as a signal booster designed to retransmit signals on one or more specific channels (channelized BDA). Class A signal boosters can be used indoors, outdoors and in mobile settings.

The FCC defines Class B signal boosters as a signal booster designed to retransmit any signals within a wide frequency band (wideband BDA). Class B signal boosters may only be installed in a fixed location. Mobile use of Class B signal boosters is prohibited by the aforementioned FCC regulation. As of November 1, 2014, all existing and new Class B signal boosters must be registered with the FCC. The website for registering Class B signal boosters is: www.fcc.gov/signal-boosters/registration.

The FCC requires signal boosters to be used on a non-interference basis. As such, if a signal booster is suspected of causing harmful interference, the operator must turn off or adjust the settings of the device at the request of the PCWIN, the FCC, or any impacted licensee to

eliminate the harmful interference. Any signal booster operator who does not comply with such as request, may be subjected to FCC fines as determined by FCC investigation.

3. Procedure Statement

Installation of a signal booster must conform to local zoning ordinances; local, State and Federal building codes; local, State and Federal fire codes; and any other applicable laws.

The following steps are required to properly obtain PCWIN consent and meet FCC regulations for use of signal booster amplifying PCWIN licensed frequencies.

- a. Identify the need for an amplification system by submitting a proposal to the Technical Working Group
- b. Submit the PCWIN Signal Booster Consent Request Form to request PCWIN consent to use the proposed signal booster.
- c. PCWIN will review the submitted PCWIN Signal Booster Consent Request Form and reserve the right to request additional information regarding the proposed signal booster.
- d. Upon approval of the proposed signal booster, the Network Managing Member shall supply a Letter of Consent allowing the use of the signal booster to amplify and retransmit frequencies licensed on the applicable PCWIN provided call signs. This shall be maintained by the signal booster operator to be presented to an FCC representative or a relevant licensee investigating interference, per aforementioned FCC regulation. A copy of the letter and any data collected during the signal booster review will also be retained by PCWIN.
- e. For Class B signal boosters, the requestor is required to comply with FCC regulation 47CFR90.219 by registering the approved device through the previously mentioned FCC signal booster registration website.
- f. Upon successful registration, the requestor must provide the FCC Booster ID of this device to PCWIN as proof of registration. PCWIN will then document the FCC Booster ID with the previously obtained documentation.
- g. The Network Managing Member records the location of the signal booster.

4. Applies to

- a. All PCWIN users

5. Supporting Rules

- a. 104-D Radio Amplification Systems Policy

6. Conditions for Exemption or Waiver

- a. None