

FILED VIA ECFS

May 19, 2004

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: *Amendment of Parts 1, 21, 73, 74 and 101 of the Commission's Rules to Facilitate the Provision of Fixed and Mobile Broadband Access, Educational and other Advanced Services in the 2150-2162 and 2500-2690 MHz Bands – WT Docket No. 03-66 --*
NOTICE OF EX PARTE PRESENTATION

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Yesterday, Thomas Knippen of W.A.T.C.H. TV Company (“WTC”), John Bunce of WinBeam, Inc. (“WinBeam”) and the undersigned, met on behalf of the Wireless Communications Association International, Inc. (“WCA”) with Sheryl J. Wilkerson, Legal Advisor to Chairman Powell, and Uzoma Onyeije, Legal Advisor to the Chief of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, regarding the *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* (“NPRM”) in the above-referenced proceeding.

Messrs. Bunce and Knippen discussed the existing wireless broadband services WTC and WinBeam currently offer to the public. They quantified the substantial economic impediment to the expansion of those services into more rural areas caused by the Commission’s site-based licensing system, and illustrated their plans for deployment of additional facilities in rural areas upon adoption of the proposal advanced by WCA, the National ITFS Association (“NIA”) and Catholic Television Network (“CTN”) for restructuring the Multipoint Distribution Service (“MDS”) and the Instructional Television Fixed Service (“ITFS”) and eliminating site-based licensing in a substantial part of the band. Attached hereto are copies of materials that WTC and WinBeam distributed at the meeting to illustrate their current and planned service offerings.

Mr. Knippen also discussed the importance to WTC, which has invested approximately \$20,000,000.00 of capital in its system and currently offers over 200 channels of digitized audio

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and video programming to over 13,000 subscribers, as well as wireless broadband service to approximately 3,500 subscribers using both first generation frequency division duplex (“FDD”) and second generation time division duplex (“TDD”) technology, of the proposal advanced by WCA, NIA and CTN for allowing certain multichannel video programming distributors to “opt out” of the proposed transition plan.

The industry participants expressed extreme concern over any proposal that would strip incumbent licensees of spectrum in order to provide an opportunity for newcomers to secure access to spectrum or for relocation of MDS channels 1 and 2. Messrs Bunce and Knippen discussed how their companies had accumulated their spectrum holdings through various secondary market transactions at great cost to WinBeam and to WTC, and that it would be fundamentally unfair to take a portion of that spectrum from them at this juncture in order to promote new entry that can occur without such Draconian measures. The industry participants noted that spectrum has been readily available in most markets through secondary market transactions, pointing out that approximately 40-50 percent of the MDS/ITFS spectrum (measured by MHz/pops) has changed hands through secondary market transactions (assignments, transfers of control, leases, and lease assignments) over the past year and that two of the four largest holders of MDS/ITFS spectrum today held no spectrum as little as a year ago. To illustrate the ready availability of spectrum, they pointed to the article in this week’s *Business Week* which establishes that although Craig O. McCaw has been active in the MDS/ITFS arena for just a few months, he already “holds the exclusive rights to radio spectrum in [Jacksonville, FL and] about 100 other cities.” They further noted that both WTC and WinBeam have been active in the secondary market and have been able to acquire spectrum in new markets over the past several months, and pointed out that as a result of the decisions by WorldCom, Inc. and Nucentrix Broadband Networks, Inc. to reject a wide range of leases as part of their Chapter 11 reorganizations, there has been a substantial quantity of spectrum available in large and small markets across the nation.

The industry participants also explained that reducing the bandwidth of each channel would have a substantial adverse operational impact. In response to the suggestion that adoption of the WCA-NIA-CTN deinterleaving proposal would lead to spectral efficiencies notwithstanding any reduction in spectrum, they pointed out that because operators have generally consolidated today’s interleaved channel groups, the deinterleaving of those channel groups proposed by WCA, NIA and CTN will not necessarily result in any spectrum efficiencies to operators. They noted that the rumored 10% reduction in bandwidth would reduce the number of subscribers that can be served from each headend and thus materially increase the cost associated with serving a given number of subscribers in a region. The result, they discussed, is that the economic viability of rural systems will be compromised, and certain marginal systems will not be built because the reduction in the maximum number of possible subscribers will eliminate potential profitability. In addition, it was noted that while the PCS and AWS bands are channelized based on multiples of 5 MHz, those bands are reserved exclusively for FDD

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technology and thus the challenges associated with TDD/FDD coexistence are not present. WCA's representatives emphasized that if the 2.5 GHz band is to accommodate both TDD and FDD technology, it will be necessary for operators to provide some guardband when non-synchronized systems utilize adjacent spectrum. They noted that while two adjacent licensees will each have 16.5 MHz of spectrum under the WCA-NIA-CTN proposal, should one operate using TDD technology and one using FDD technology, it is likely that even under the best of circumstances guardband requirements will leave each licensee with just 15 MHz or less of usable spectrum given the limits of current filter technology.

In addition, it was noted that in the case of WTC's system, which makes extensive use of all of the available MDS channels in the 2.1 GHz and 2.5 GHz band for digital video and wireless broadband services, any relocation of MDS channels 1 and 2 to the 2.5 GHz band by taking spectrum from incumbent 2.5 GHz licensees would leave WTC with no effective replacement spectrum since WTC already has access through ownership or lease of the entire 2.5 GHz band and is using that spectrum extensively.

Pursuant to Section 1.1206(b)(2), this notice is being filed electronically with the Commission via the Electronic Comment Filing System for inclusion in the public record of the above-reference proceeding. Should you have any questions regarding this summary, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Paul J. Sinderbrand

Paul J. Sinderbrand

Counsel to the Wireless Communications
Association International, Inc.

Attachments

cc: Sheryl J. Wilkerson

Winbeam, Inc of Greensburg, Pennsylvania

Winbeam was formed in early 2000 to aggregate licensed spectrum in Pennsylvania and neighboring states. Winbeam has patiently assembled 16 properties to form a reasonably contiguous footprint in rural Pennsylvania and the smaller cities of Pennsylvania.

Winbeam constructed a generation 1 Hybrid system in October, 2001 in Altoona. Winbeam applied for a license to deploy a second generation Navini system in September, 2003. We hope to receive that license soon. We believe that the Navini generation 2 systems will have much more attractive economics than generation 1. We have worked closely with Ntelos and Rioplex to observe what we understand to be successful deployments in areas similar to Pennsylvania. The new rules for licensed spectrum deployment would accelerate our deployment dramatically.

Winbeam has four primary districts which it will develop:

1. **Erie**

Once the first site is successful, Erie County is the prototypical district that is underserved by cable and DSL. We are eager to extend service to the area.

2. **The I-99 to west of Harrisburg district**

We have made substantial progress extending from our initial Altoona site 13 miles north to Tyrone. Soon we will move to the south and east to the next county, Huntingdon. We were forced to use unlicensed spectrum, because the economics preclude absorbing the cost and delay of getting licenses for the smaller, scattered markets. Licensed spectrum would serve these areas better. We have the spectrum and would like to use it. But we need the new rules to make it economic.

3. **The Harrisburg, York, Lancaster market**

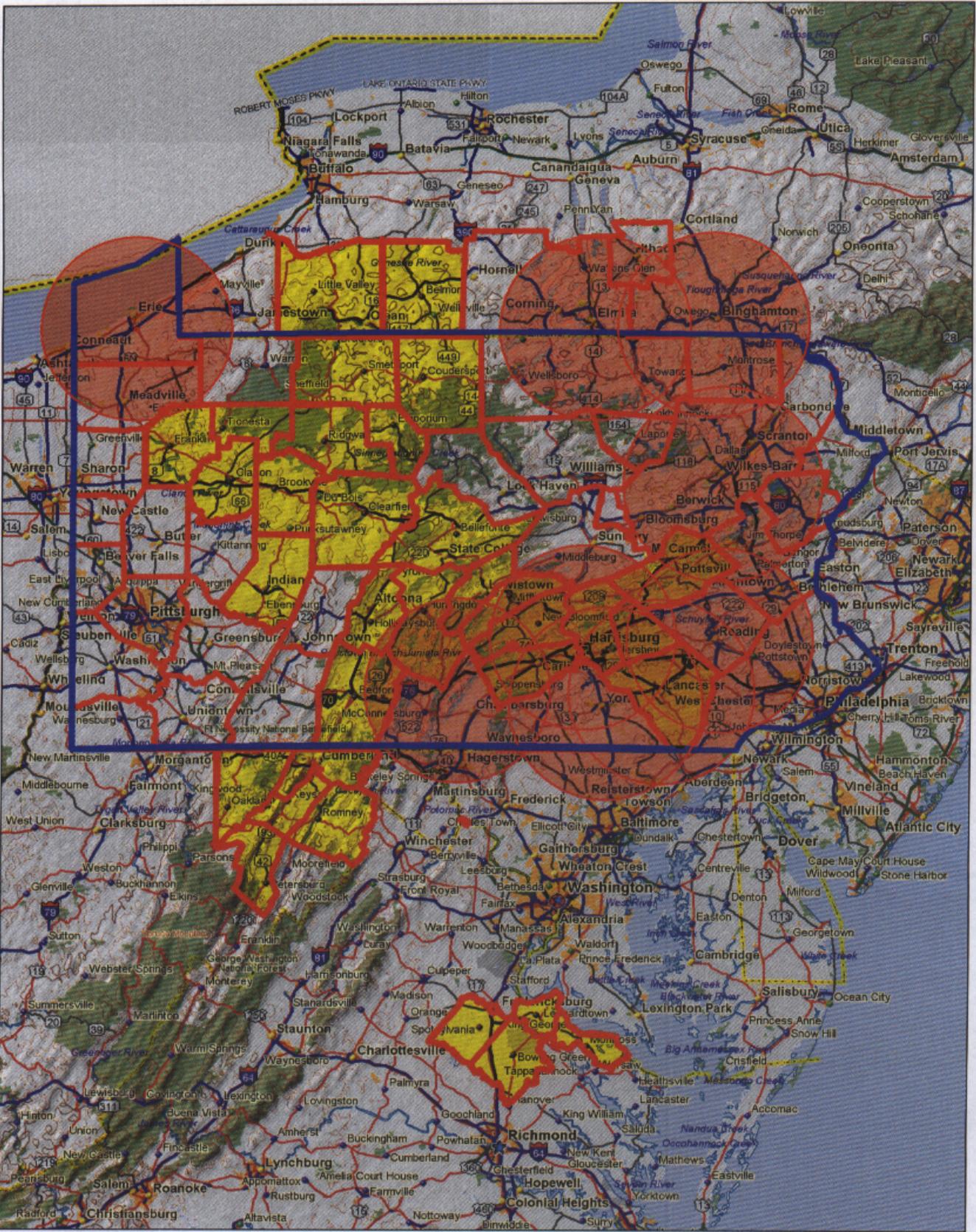
This is Winbeam's densest market. Once we make an initial deployment, we would like to move rapidly to build out the region. The new rules would facilitate that tremendously.

4. **Reading, Wilkes-Barre, Scranton, Binghamton**

While this is a little different than districts 1 and 2, the cumulative economics and need for rapid deployment are similar to the regions described above.

Winbeam desires to build an ISP brand in the commonwealth of Pennsylvania. We believe that the technology is practical and economic. We believe that the licensed spectrum advantages make it the best technology for rural areas and small cities in our state.

The contemplated new rules would help us deploy much more quickly. We urge the Commission to enact those new rules.

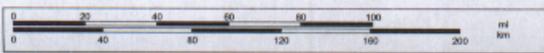


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Antique Map Series

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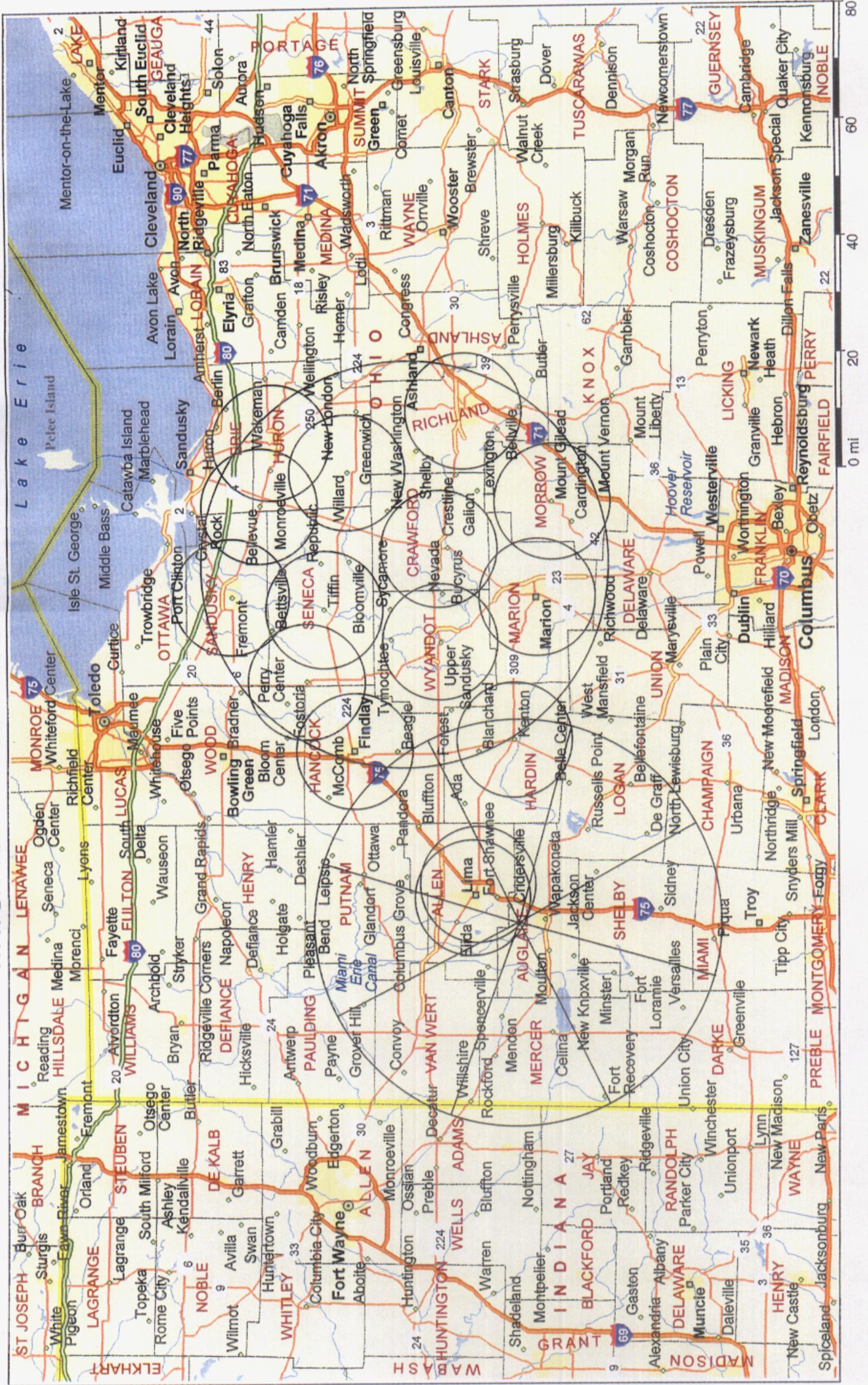
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DIGITAL CHANNEL LINEUP

BASIC TOP 60 SERVICE		DIGITAL TOP 100 SERVICE	
1	Information Channel	(BASIC TOP 60 + THE FOLLOWING)	
5	KTLA Los Angeles	105	Speed Channel
7	WHIO CBS Dayton	108	FOX SPORTS WORLD
9	WGN Chicago	109	Outdoor Channel
10	WBNS CBS Columbus	110	Sportsman Channel
11	WPIX New York	111	The Golf Channel
13	WTVG ABC Toledo	112	ESPN News
18	WLQP UPN Lima	113	ESPN Classic Sports
21	WPTA ABC Ft. Wayne	216	CNN FN
22	WKEF NBC Dayton	330	Independant Film Network
25	WOHL FOX Lima	403	Discovery Kids
27	WBGU PBS Bowling Green	404	Discovery Science
35	WLIO NBC Lima	406	Discovery Home and Leisure
38	WSBK Boston	408	Discovery Civilization
44	WTLW Rel Lima	409	Discovery Wings
55	WFFT FOX Ft. Wayne	414	DIY (Do It Yourself)
65	America One	418	Biography
77	TV Data	502	Nickelodeon Games & Sports
100	ESPN Now	503	Noggin
101 & 2	ESPN 1	514	Toon Disney
103 & 4	ESPN 2	531	MTV2
106	FOX SPORTS OHIO	601-645	Digital Music Channels
107	FOX SPORTS OHIO - ALTER.	758	Hallmark Channel
201	FOX News	759	Lifetime Movie Network
202	CNN	763	E - Entertainment
203	CNN Headline News	764	Court TV
204	MS - NBC	766	WE
214	The Weather Cannel	767	Game Show Network
215	C-SPAN 1	768	BBC America
310	Turner Classic Movies	771	PAX
320	American Movie Classics(AMC)	PREMIUM SERVICES	
401	Discovery	801	HBO
402	Home and Garden	802	HBO Plus
407	Discovery Health	803	HBO Signature
410	The Food Network	804	HBO Family
411	A & E	805	HBO Comidy
412	Animal Planet	806	HBO Zone
413	The History Channel	807	HBO Latino
415	The Learning Channel	811	Cinemax
416	The Travel Channel	812	More Max
419	Tech TV	813	Action Max
501	Nickelodeon	814	Thriller Max
512	Disney	815	W Max
515	Cartoon Network	816	@ Max
516	TV Land	817	Outer Max
523	The National Network	818	5 Star Max
530	MTV	821	Showtime
542	VH-1	822	Showtime Too
556	CMT	823	Showcase
557	Great American Country	824	Showtime Extreme
560	EWTN	825	Showtime Beyond
561	Inspirational Network	831	The Movie Channel
562	Trinity Broadcast Network	832	The Movie Channel 2
580 & 8	QVC	841	Flix
581	Home Shopping	842	Sundance Channel
582	Shop NBC	851	Encore
718	USA	852	Encore Love Stories
719	TBS Alanta	853	Encore Westerns
729	ABC Family Channel	854	Encore Mystery
738	TNT	855	Encore Action
760	Lifetime	856	Encore True Stories
761	Comedy Central	857	Wam
762	SCI-FI	861	Starz!
765	FX	862	Starz!2
769	Soap Net	863	Black Starz!
		864	Starz! Family
		865	Starz! Cinema
		900-940	PAY PER VIEW