

ANNEX A to APPENDIX 6: Examples in support of Appendix 6

This annex provides background information only and is intended to be read in conjunction with Appendix 6 "*Application of Assignment Policy Rules*". It outlines several example cases of the assessment of applications seeking the relaxation of particular RALI assignment or planning rules. The examples are provided in order to demonstrate the application of the general approach outlined in Appendix 6 in considering some of the more exceptional fixed link assignment applications.

Examples of applications seeking the relaxation of individual Assignment Instructions or Planning Rules

CASE I: *A licensee cancels an existing fixed link licence and seeks to re-use the recovered link equipment at another location. However, the operating frequencies of the recovered equipment do not accord with the channels designated by the assignment priority criteria as applicable at the proposed new link location. Although the recovered (older) equipment is in sound working order, it is not readily retuneable and would need to be sent back to the manufacturer for re-alignment.*

As with most of the other RALI coordination and planning rules, assignment priority criteria is intended to facilitate efficient spectrum re-use through the optimisation of overall link densities within a given spectrum space. Accordingly, assigners are expected to practice and encourage the principle of "vertical loading" of radiofrequency channels as a matter of good routine engineering practice. However, it is recognised that some situations (such as outlined above) do arise where a reasonable case can be presented to relax the application of the RALI specified assignment priority. Overall, it can be demonstrated that the relaxation of assignment priority criteria in isolated cases (as outlined above) will not significantly affect spectrum productivity.

CASE II: *An applicant proposes a fixed point-to-point link in the 7.5 GHz band with a necessary channel bandwidth of 14 MHz. However, the proposed path length of 6 km does not meet the minimum path length criteria of 20 km for the band. The proposed link will be located in a high rainfall area close to a designated HSDA.*

The minimum path length requirement is intended to encourage fixed link operators to preserve the lower frequency bands for long link paths. In considering this particular case, it is noted that there are a number of alternative RALI FX 3 arrangements, ie. 10/15/18/22/38 GHz, which provide a 14 MHz channel raster. It is recognised, however, that the higher of these alternative bands may not be suitable for the proposed link, given the location in a high rainfall area. Overall, although the proposed link is not strictly within a designated HSDA, it is considered that the relatively short proposed path length is achievable in other (higher) bands and accordingly, the proposal is not supportable.

Note: The above examples, although based upon (simplified) actual cases, are provided as background information (for Appendix 6) only and must not be interpreted as explicit policy rulings or instant recipes for different fixed link assignment situations.