



Mr Brice Le Cannu
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Dear Mr Le Cannu

Consultation on "Award of available spectrum: 2500-2690 MHz, 2010-2025 MHz and 2290-2300 MHz"

UK Broadband welcomes the opportunity to respond to this consultation. We support Ofcom's market-based approach to spectrum management and in this respect a policy of application and technology neutrality in relation to use of existing spectrum and the grant of new spectrum.

Ofcom's plans to auction 2.5GHz later this year would involve the granting of licences to winning bidders which would be technology and application neutral. We fully support this approach as it encourages innovation and competition in relation to new or improved services. All of these have the potential to provide real consumer benefits. However, we do not consider it necessary or desirable to allocate certain spectrum bands for particular uses. To do so would be discriminatory, unnecessary for the maximisation of user benefits and inconsistent with Ofcom's duties and policy objectives.

UK Broadband has recently submitted its own application to Ofcom to request a variation of its spectrum licences to enable technology and application neutral use of 3.5GHz.

In the context of Ofcom's licensing policy and statements made in the Strategic Framework Implementation Plan (13 January 2005), we would expect a decision to have been made by Ofcom on UK Broadband's licence variation request by the time of issue of the 2.5GHz auction Information Memorandum. That Memorandum should also therefore refer specifically to our request and the outcome. This will of course be essential in order to give a full and fair view of the regulatory context and enable bidders to make properly informed decisions about their auction strategy.

If you would like to discuss any of these issues further with me or any of my colleagues, please do not hesitate to contact me. We look forward to the publication of your response Statement later in 2007.

Yours Sincerely

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UK Broadband

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