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Research Article

Federal Communications Commission reverse incentive spectrum auction: outcomes and impact on the broadcast industry

Amy Sindik & Heather Polinsky

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Disclosure statement

No potential conflict of interest was reported by the authors.

Notes

1. Auction 1000 encompassed two separate auctions, the reverse spectrum auction (Auction 1001) and the forward purchasing auction (Auction 1002).
2. The FCC has promised \$1.75 billion to aid stations in their repacking efforts, but this may not be enough money for the repacking efforts, which involves ordering new antennas and transmission equipment, assessing tower space and booking the broadcast tower companies are necessary to comply with the repack requirements (Arlen, [2017](#)).
3. Whether spectrum space is actually a scarce commodity is the subject of long-standing debate (T. W. Hazlett, [1990](#)).
4. That is, to access unused frequencies, wireless investors must file a plan with the government, detail their prospective business, document their technology and then prove such operations will serve “public interest, convenience or necessity.”
5. The FCC's Commission Decision on the Auction Act of 1993. Since 1993, the FCC has been required to hold auctions for spectrum frequencies. The FCC's most recent auction was the 700 MHz auction ([2003](#)). The Commission Decision on the Auction Act of 1993.
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8. Commissioned by the FCC and produced by Greenhill & Co. LLC, an independent investment bank.

Additional information

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Notes on contributors

Amy Sindik

Amy Sindik (Ph.D. University of Georgia) is an Associate Professor in the School of Broadcast and Cinematic Arts at Central Michigan University. Her research interests include FCC policy and administrative law.

Heather Polinsky

Heather Polinsky (Ph.D. Michigan State University) is an Associate Professor in the School of Broadcast and Cinematic Arts at Central Michigan University. Her research interests include media business, economics and policy.

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