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Research Article

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

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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 spectrum management authority was established by the Communications Act of 1934, amended by the Communications Act of 1936 and the Communications Act of 1940. The FCC’s authority was further clarified by the Communications Act of 1993. Since 1993, the FCC has been authorized to allocate spectrum for distinct services (Arlen, [2017](#)). The FCC’s management of spectrum is detailed in [Arlen \(2003\)](#). The FCC’s management of spectrum is detailed in [Arlen \(2003\)](#).
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