

Protect Your 6 GHz MW Network from Wi-Fi 6E

In April 2020, the FCC released the Final Report and Order detailing rules for the operation of unlicensed devices in the 6 GHz band.

These new devices present the possibility of interference with existing incumbent microwave operations. The rollout of standard power Access Points is imminent, with devices already being tested using AFC Systems and deployed under experimental licenses from the FCC.

The Positive

The good news is that the standard power operations will have a control mechanism known as an Automated Frequency Coordination (AFC) system that dynamically manages frequency assignments. The AFC's job is to minimize the potential for interference with microwave incumbents by analyzing the FCC's Universal Licensing System (ULS) data for licensed and applied microwave links.

The Challenge

The less encouraging news is that frequency recommendations made by the AFC are only as good as the underlying data within the ULS. Comsearch constantly reviews the ULS data, and it is evident that there is a significant amount of 6 GHz data that is erroneous. **The FCC has issued a Public Notice reminding licensees the importance of maintaining accurate information in the ULS**.

What Can Be Done?

Comsearch can help you minimize system degradation and downtime through a <u>3-step process</u> of *Auditing, Corrective Actions* and *Mitigation*.

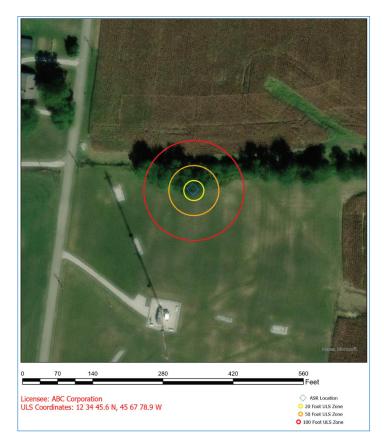
STEP 1: AUDITING

Desktop Verifications

Comsearch will analyze licensed data using all available sources including the ULS, the Comsearch database, and a variety of GIS tools to identify potential errors in coordinates and AMSL.

Field Verifications

On-site audit of your microwave network will be conducted using GNSS devices to document accurate coordinates, AMSL, and antenna heights. This information will be used to correct any erroneous license details on the ULS.



STEP 2: CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

Coordination & FCC Licensing Updates

Comsearch has a long history of performing interference analyses, issuing prior coordination notices (PCN), and preparing FCC applications. We will prioritize and manage all corrective actions with the following services:

- PCN updates
- FCC licensing corrections, additions and deletions
- FAA Registration (Form 7460-1)
- Antenna Structure Registration (ASR Form 854)
- Local Notices
- Long-term network health with FCC License Management

STEP 3: MITIGATION

Interference Resolution

Comsearch will identify and mitigate interference when it occurs. We will work with the AFCs to gather all available data for each interference case. If a quick resolution is not possible, our field team will be deployed. Leveraging the collected AFC data and years of interference tracking experience, the team will investigate the source of interference. We will provide mitigation advice and ongoing support to resolve interference cases.

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