



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
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Washington, DC 20554

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WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS BUREAU SEEKS COMMENT ON SHIPCOM'S AND GLOBAL HF NET'S REQUESTS TO EXPAND THEIR WAIVER OF SECTION 80.123

WT Docket No. 25-255

Comments Due: September 18, 2025

Reply Comments Due: October 3, 2025

By this Public Notice, we seek comment on the requests of ShipCom, LLC (ShipCom) and Global HF Net, LLC (GHFN) (collectively, ShipCom and GHFN or the Companies) to amend their presently-held waiver of section 80.123 of the Commission's rules to permit additional use of the Companies' public coast station system, in order to enable eligible entities to utilize the system for additional public safety services.¹

ShipCom and GHFN are commonly owned,² and both hold high frequency (HF) licenses for public coast stations.³ The Companies seek modification of the waiver for licenses held by both companies. Section 80.123 permits very high frequency (VHF) public coast stations to provide service to units on land under certain conditions, but part 80 does not allow HF public coast stations to provide such service.⁴ We previously granted the Companies a waiver of the part 80 rules to permit them to use their licensed HF frequencies to serve land-based units of Federal Government entities and Public Safety Pool eligibles during catastrophic situations, and for necessary testing and training.⁵

The Companies seek to amend their current waiver in the following ways: (1) "remov[ing] the restrictive 'disaster' communications limitation" and "only limit[ing] non-maritime use to public safety

¹ See ShipCom, LLC, File Nos. 0011159530, 0011159540, 0011159552, 0011159561, 0011159579, 0011159595, 0011159606, 0011159613, 0011159624, 0011159640, 0011262886 (filed July 16 – Oct 30, 2024); Global HF Net, LLC, File Nos. 0011264348, 0011279812, 0011264340, 0011264357, 0011279816, 0011264375, 0011264391, 0011264452 (filed Oct 1–Nov 1, 2024) (collectively "ShipCom/GHFN Amended Waiver Requests"). For any file numbers listed above that represent licenses with pending renewals, the grant of any modification request for those licenses is contingent on their renewal. This contingency applies to any license(s) with renewal petition(s) filed before, on the date of, or after the release of this Public Notice.

² *ShipCom, LLC; Global HF Net, LLC Request to Allow Use of High Seas Marine Frequencies by First Responders and Federal Agencies on Land During Disasters*, WT Docket No. 17-184, Order, 34 FCC Rcd 10524, 10525, para. 4 (2019) (*ShipCom/Global Waiver Grant*); see also ShipCom/GHFN Amended Waiver Requests, Amendment at 1 & n.1 ("GHFN and Shipcom share management, as well as the same majority member of their respective LLCs, JJ/CD Capital.").

³ ShipCom/GHFN Amended Waiver Requests at 1, 2.

⁴ *ShipCom/Global Waiver Grant*, 34 FCC Rcd at 10524, para. 2; 47 CFR § 80.123.

⁵ *ShipCom/Global Waiver Grant*, 34 FCC Rcd at 10526, para. 10; ShipCom/GHFN Amended Waiver Requests at 3.

communications as defined in section 90.405(a) of the Commission's Rules";⁶ (2) changing the eligibility criteria for customers to be akin to the eligibility requirement listed in Section 90.20 of the Commission's Rules;⁷ and (3) "specify[ing] that public safety communications over the GHFN Part 80 radio system may be relayed, as needed, through any radio system licensed to or controlled by GHFN, or with the consent of the licensee(s) of the relaying system."⁸ The Companies argue that, while the need by the public safety community for land-based services such as those provided by the Companies has increased, the need by the maritime community for these services has decreased.⁹ They argue, therefore, that "the additional [land-based] services can be delivered while still providing service to maritime customers."¹⁰

The Bureau seeks comment on the Companies' amended waiver requests. ShipCom and GHFN filed their Requests electronically in the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS). We have opened a new docket, WT Docket No. 25-255 to facilitate consideration of the requests and have moved ShipCom and GHFN's requests into this docket.

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

Filing Requirements. Interested parties may file comments and reply comments on or before the dates indicated on the first page of this document. Comments may be filed using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS).

- Electronic Filers: Comments may be filed electronically using the Internet by accessing the ECFS: <https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/>.
- Paper Filers: Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and one copy of each filing.
 - Filings can be sent by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial courier, or by the U.S. Postal Service. **All filings must be addressed to the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission.**
 - Hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary are accepted between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. by the FCC's mailing contractor at 9050 Junction Drive, Annapolis Junction, MD 20701. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes and boxes must be disposed of before entering the building.
 - Commercial courier deliveries (any deliveries not by the U.S. Postal Service) must be sent to 9050 Junction Drive, Annapolis Junction, MD 20701.
 - Filings sent by U.S. Postal Service First-Class Mail, Priority Mail, and Priority Mail Express must be sent to 45 L Street NE, Washington, DC 20554.

People with Disabilities. To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202-418-0530 (voice).

⁶ ShipCom/GHFN Amended Waiver Requests at 6. Permissible communications under section 90.405(a) are limited to: "(1) [a]ny communication related directly to the imminent safety-of-life or property; (2) [c]ommunications directly related and necessary to those activities which make the licensee eligible for the station license held under [Part 90 of the Commission's Rules]" and "(3) [minimal c]ommunications [needed] for testing purposes required for proper station and system maintenance." 47 CFR § 90.405(a).

⁷ ShipCom/GHFN Amended Waiver Requests at 7.

⁸ *Id.*

⁹ *Id.* at 5.

¹⁰ *Id.* at 8.

Ex Parte Rules. The proceeding this Notice initiates shall be treated as a “permit-but-disclose” proceeding in accordance with the Commission’s *ex parte* rules.¹¹ Persons making *ex parte* presentations must file a copy of any written presentation or a memorandum summarizing any oral presentation within two business days after the presentation (unless a different deadline applicable to the Sunshine period applies). Persons making oral *ex parte* presentations are reminded that memoranda summarizing the presentation must (1) list all persons attending or otherwise participating in the meeting at which the *ex parte* presentation was made, and (2) summarize all data presented and arguments made during the presentation. If the presentation consisted in whole or in part of the presentation of data or arguments already reflected in the presenter’s written comments, memoranda or other filings in the proceeding, the presenter may provide citations to such data or arguments in his or her prior comments, memoranda, or other filings (specifying the relevant page and/or paragraph numbers where such data or arguments can be found) in lieu of summarizing them in the memorandum. Documents shown or given to Commission staff during *ex parte* meetings are deemed to be written *ex parte* presentations and must be filed consistent with rule 1.1206(b). In proceedings governed by rule 1.49(f) or for which the Commission has made available a method of electronic filing, written *ex parte* presentations and memoranda summarizing oral *ex parte* presentations, and all attachments thereto, must be filed through the electronic comment filing system available for that proceeding, and must be filed in their native format (e.g., .doc, .xml, .ppt, searchable .pdf). Participants in this proceeding should familiarize themselves with the Commission’s *ex parte* rules.

Additional Information. For further information regarding this Public Notice, please contact Lloyd Collier, Mobility Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, at Lloyd.Collier@fcc.gov.

By the Chief, Mobility Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau.

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¹¹ 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.1200 *et seq.*