

**FHH Telecom Law**  
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**FCC Facilitates Broadband Satellite Services**

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Newly adopted rules for licensing satellite services in shared Ku-band frequencies (10.7 - 14.5 GHz) should help to promote the delivery of broadband services by satellite. The FCC has created a sharing method for systems to operate simultaneously in shared spectrum, even while using different satellite designs.

Seven applicants for nongeostationary orbit satellite systems -- Boeing, Denali, Hughes (2 systems applied for), Skybridge, Teledesic, and Virtual GEO -- will be able to share the same spectrum to provide advanced data, video and telephony services. In order to receive their licenses, the applicants must file amendments to their applications to meet the new sharing standards.

The FCC also adopted a Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making on how to allocate the limit on the total power that can be emitted by the Ku-band NGSO Fixed Satellite Service. The Further Notice proposes a methodology for licensees to demonstrate, in the aggregate, that their systems are within that limit, and also seeks comment on whether the FCC's new definition of inline interference events should be adjusted with respect to higher powered transmitters.