

Telecoms - Taiwan

More spectrum offered for 4G deployment

Contributed by **Shay & Partners**

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On September 24 2014 the National Communications Commission (NCC) decided to offer the 57-64 megahertz (MHz) band to mobile broadband operators for the deployment of trunk networks through the construction of small cell and femtocell. This band will be licence exempt, with no bidding, licence fee or spectrum-usage fee required. The frequency will be assigned on a first come, first served basis, subject to the NCC's review of the application and network deployment plan. After the NCC had reached its conclusion, it explained in a press conference that such use is popular in Europe and the United States, and it is ready to follow suit in order to promote the penetration of fourth generation (4G) services in Taiwan.

On September 16 2014 the NCC revealed its spectrum planning proposal agreed by the Executive Yuan as to possible 4G deployment in the following bands:

- 2600 MHz band – there will be an auction in the third quarter of 2015 to release 50 MHz for time-division duplexing (TDD), followed by a further auction in 2016 for frequency-division duplexing, which should involve around 140 MHz.
- 2300-2400 MHz band – a further 100 MHz for TDD will be released in the latter half of 2016.
- 3400-3600 MHz band and 1900 MHz band – these will be released, mostly for TDD, by no later than the end of 2016.

The decision is regarded as a supplement to the draft spectrum provision plan for mobile communications disclosed by the Ministry of Transportation and Communications in August 2014. The public consultation is scheduled to end on October 1 2014.

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