## Former FCC Head Sees LightSquared Getting Spectrum Approval by 2015

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Former FCC Commissioner Robert McDowell testified that LightSquared will likely earn FCC approval to deploy a terrestrial network on 30 MHz of its spectrum by the end of 2015.

McDowell said an additional 10 MHz will likely be approved for use within the next seven years, a conclusion he based on public information, discussions with LightSquared and prior experience, according to a Bloomberg report [1].

Christopher Rogers, an airwave issues committee member, testifying on behalf of LightSquared, also predicted a 2015 FCC approval and suggested that the would-be wireless provider may attempt to acquire more spectrum.

The FCC last year gave LightSquared approval to <u>test deploying mobile broadband</u> services in the 1675-1680 MHz band on a shared basis with existing federal operations [2].

LightSquared in 2012 filed for bankruptcy protection after the FCC squashed its plans to deploy wireless broadband due to potential interference with GPS. LightSquared's L Band spectrum holdings have since become a target for Dish Chairman Charlie Ergen.

LightSquared is pursuing a restructuring plan, considering options from owner Philip Falcone's Harbinger Capital and a lender group that includes Ergen. LightSquared has accused Ergen of buying a big chunk of company's debt without revealing who was behind the purchase, stating it would not have allowed someone representing a competitor like Dish to do so.

## Source URL (retrieved on 07/28/2014 - 8:35am):

http://www.wirelessweek.com/news/2014/03/former-fcc-head-sees-lightsquared-getting-spectrum-approval-2015

## Links:

- [2] http://www.wirelessweek.com/news/2013/04/fcc-oks-lightsquared-test-spectrum-sharing

Page 1 of 1