

Before the
INDUSTRY CANADA
Ottawa, Canada

In the Matter of)
)
Consultation on the Revisions to the 2500-2690 MHz Band Plan) SPB-002-26
)

COMMENTS OF NOKIA

I. INTRODUCTION

Nokia welcomes the opportunity to comment on Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED) consultation to the 2500-2690 MHz Band Plan and believes that the consultation is very important for the telecommunication industry and for Canadian consumers and for the future evolution of 6G.

Driven by anticipated traffic growth, the AI Supercycle, and emerging use cases like Integrated Sensing and Communication (ISAC), 6G will be foundational for our digital economy and market competitiveness. Therefore, aligning the 2500 MHz band plan with the n41 US and global ecosystem is essential to leverage ongoing developments in adjacent band, paving the way for 6G spectrum.

II. Consultation questions:

Q1: ISED is seeking comments on its proposal to revise the band plan to an unpaired band plan in 2500-2690 MHz in providing comments, respondents are requested to include supporting rationale and arguments.

Answer:

In February 2011, ISED adopted the ITU band plan for Canada, specifically FDD Band 7 and TDD Band 38, following a consultation process outlined in Canada Gazette Notice No. DGSO-001-10. Since then, significant developments have reshaped the spectrum landscape.

The U.S. ecosystem for Band 41 (n41) has experienced substantial growth, becoming a cornerstone of 5G deployments and delivering some of the highest speeds in the U.S. market.

This band's importance extends globally, with countries like China, Japan, and Saudi Arabia also deploying n41 for both LTE and 5G. In fact, GSA's December report¹ identified the n41 band as the second most widely used 5G band worldwide.

Furthermore, in the One Big Beautiful Bill Act the US has identified the adjacent band 2690-2900 MHz as potential for 6G, which increases the importance of changing the current adopted plan to align with the n41 ecosystem.

From a radio product perspective Nokia advocates the alignment with the n41 US band plan which extends from 2496 to 2690 MHz and to adopt similar emissions limits, thus benefiting from the economy of scales.

¹ GSA-5G-Device-Ecosystem-Member-Report-December-2025

III. Conclusion.

Mobile data traffic is continuously growing, CRTC Report² shows that it tripled from 2020 to 2024. To meet the growing traffic demands that will be driven by new use cases such as AI (Artificial Intelligence), autonomous cars and others, continuous enhancement in spectrum efficiency through advancement in technology through 5G-Advanced and 6G, although very important, will not be sufficient. Therefore, it is essential to provide operators and enterprises with an additional spectrum that will help them deploy in a cost-effective manner. Nokia supports the efforts that ISED is doing towards changing the current band plan towards TDD n41 (2496-2690 MHz) to benefit from the current mature ecosystem and open the possibility to potentially profit from US development that are happening in the adjacent band towards an important mid-band 5G/6G spectrum that will enable Canada to continue to be a leader in technology and help Canadian economy.

Respectfully submitted,

Nokia

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Maddox', is written over a horizontal line.

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² <https://crtc.gc.ca/eng/publications/reports/PolicyMonitoring/mob.htm>

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