



POLICY

Signal Boosters

CALIFORNIA RADIO INTEROPERABLE SYSTEM (CRIS)

It is the Policy of CRIS that the design and implementation of any signal boosters (By- Directional Amplifiers - BDA) used on the CRIS system be reviewed and approved by the CRIS System Engineer prior to implementation. The CRIS reserves the right to verify signal boosters have been properly engineered and do not create interference by performing site surveys, inspections and testing of signal booster installations as deemed necessary. Signal boosters are typically used to retransmit frequencies to improve signal strength such as in-building coverage. As the holder of the FCC licenses, CRIS is subject to Federal regulations in regards to the use of signal boosters. Specifically and for purposes of this policy, CRIS is required to comply with regulation 47CFR90.219 "Use of Signal Boosters." According to FCC regulation 47CFR90.219, non-licensees operating a signal booster to retransmit licensed frequencies must have the consent of the licensee.

The FCC recognizes two basic classes of signal boosters:

- Class A signal boosters designed to retransmit signals on one or more specific channels (channelized BDA). Class A signal booster can be used indoors, outdoors and in mobile settings.
- Class B signal boosters designed to retransmit any signals within a wide frequency band (wideband BDA). Class B signal boosters may only be installed in a fixed location. Mobile use of Class B signal boosters is prohibited.
- Part 90 Class B signal boosters (non-channelized BDAs) must be registered through the FCC Signal Booster database.

All new Class B signal boosters must be registered with the FCC. Existing Class B signal booster installations in operation prior to November 1, 2014 and not registered with the FCC are unauthorized and subject to enforcement action. The website for registering Class B signal boosters is: www.fcc.gov/signal-boosters/registration.

The FCC requires signal boosters to be used on a non-interference basis. As such, if a signal booster is suspected of causing harmful interference, the operator must turn off or adjust the settings of the device at the request of the

CRIS, the FCC, or any impacted licensee to eliminate the harmful interference. Any signal booster operator who does not comply with such as request, may be subjected to FCC fines as determined by FCC.

The following steps are required to properly obtain consent and meet FCC regulations for use of signal booster amplifying licensed frequencies on the CRIS system.

- Submit to the CRIS System Engineer a written request, the request should include:
 - Type of BDA – Supply Spec Sheet
 - Planned Install Date
 - Requested Frequency/ies
- The CRIS Engineer will review the submitted Signal Booster Consent Request, and if needed may request additional information regarding the proposed signal booster.
- Upon approval of the proposed signal booster, the CRIS Engineer shall supply a Letter of Consent allowing the use of the signal booster to retransmit frequencies licensed on the applicable CRIS provided call signs. This letter shall be maintained by the signal booster operator to be presented to an FCC representative or a relevant licensee investigating interference per aforementioned FCC regulation. A copy of the letter and any data collected during the signal booster review will also be retained by the CRIS Engineer.
- For Class B signal boosters, the requestor is required to comply with FCC regulation 47CFR90.219 by registering the approved device through the previously mentioned FCC signal booster registration website.
- Any and all ordinances or laws covering the installation of a signal booster must be adhered to.
- Upon successful registration, the requestor must provide the FCC Booster ID of this device to the CRIS Engineer as proof of registration. The CRIS will document the FCC Booster ID with the previously obtained documentation.