



Federal  
Communications  
Commission

# WIRELESS INFRASTRUCTURE NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

State and Local Government Webinar  
April 22, 2014



# Expediting Environmental Review of Small Cells and Distributed Antenna Systems

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## Traditional Macrocell



## Small Cell



- Environmental review process adopted with traditional cell sites deployed on towers in mind
- DAS and small cells may have minimal effects on environment

# Temporary Towers Exemption

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- Temporary facilities like cells-on-wheels can be quickly deployed to support communications in a disaster or other unplanned event
- Exemption from notification process will allow carriers to meet unanticipated short-term needs



## Section 6409(a) of Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012

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- Section 6409(a)(1) provides that: “a State or local government may not deny, and shall approve, any eligible facilities request for a modification of an existing wireless tower or base station that does not substantially change the physical dimensions of such tower or base station.”
- “*Eligible facilities request*” includes request for (a) collocation of new transmission equipment; (b) removal of transmission equipment; or (c) replacement of transmission equipment.



## Section 332(c)(7)

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- 2009 Declaratory Ruling established a presumption under Section 332(c)(7) that municipalities should complete wireless siting review:
  - In 90 days for collocation applications
  - In 150 days for other applications
  - Period may be tolled if application incomplete
- NPRM seeks comment on:
  - *Application of time periods to local moratoria*
  - *Clarification of “collocation”*
  - *When applications are complete*
  - *Application to DAS*
  - *Municipal siting preferences under Section 332(c)(7)(B)(i)(I)*
  - *Additional remedies*