

Policy Statement

State of Iowa

Policy Name: Requiring frequency coordination by vendors or agencies deploying LTE broadband vehicles	Policy#:	ISICS 2021-02.0
	Date Adopted:	06/10/2021
	Date Reviewed:	02/12/2021
	Version:	2.0

WHEREAS: The Iowa Statewide Interoperable Communications System Board (ISICSB) is established in Code of Iowa sections 80.28 and 80.29. ISICSB is charged to develop, implement and oversee policy, operations, and fiscal components of communications interoperability efforts at the state and local levels, and to coordinate similar efforts at the federal level, with the objective of overseeing operation of statewide integrated public safety systems, and establish, monitor, and maintain appropriate polices and protocols, expand, maintain and fund stakeholder education, public education, and official education programs to demonstrate value of short-term communications interoperability solutions, and;

WHEREAS: ISICSB investigates data and video interoperability systems and applicable standards that support public safety and service such as FirstNet and other carriers, and;

WHEREAS: ISICSB is tasked with establishing, monitoring and maintaining policies and protocols that ensure interoperable communications function properly by following applicable best practices and standards related to the Iowa Statewide Interoperable Communications System (ISICS) and to some extent, other interoperable systems operating within Iowa, and;

WHEREAS: ISICSB supports the expansion of regional efforts to promote implementation of the ISICS, FirstNet and other carriers for planned and unplanned events, and;

WHEREAS: ISICSB recognizes the need to avoid duplicative requests and coordinate efforts while minimizing the potential for unintended consequences, and;

WHEREAS: ISICSB recognizes and understands that uncoordinated use of frequencies, absent continual coordination among system owners, can cause detrimental interference, desensitization of land mobile radio (LMR) subscriber units and other unintended and undesirable effects, and;

WHEREAS: ISICSB is aware of situations where local long term evolution (LTE) devices may desensitize susceptible mobile and portable LMR subscriber unit receivers. Additionally, ISICSB recognizes that there are currently mobile and portable LMR subscriber radios capable of transmitting and receiving broadband frequencies, and the expansion of these device offerings is likely. While there have been mobile LTE deployments in many other states that did not cause unintended or undesirable effects, due to limited deployments of mobile LTE units in Iowa there may be unknown or other unintended and undesirable effects, and;

NOW THEREFORE;

IT IS ISICSB POLICY:

That any communication system provider that is deploying or plans to deploy a mobile long term evolution (LTE) broadband vehicle in the State of Iowa shall engage in pre-planning with the State of Iowa and its stakeholders to outline deployable assets, minimize potential for interference, and operational characteristics consistent with industry best practices for future deployments. This coordination should include periodic updates and the opportunity for the State of Iowa to identify areas of concern for potential interference to public safety LMR operations, and for mobile wireless providers to provide information about the types of deployable LTE vehicles commonly deployed and common deployment strategies. Such coordination should also address the timely exchange of accurate information between wireless providers and state and local LMR operators (including exchange and maintenance of contact information) and credentialing and restoration access policies for disaster or emergency affected areas is highly encouraged.

State of Iowa and its stakeholders shall protect wireless providers' sensitive information from bad actors and competitors consistent with Iowa Code 22.7(50)¹.

The local agency making the request should ensure that the Iowa Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEMD) State Duty Officer is informed of a request for LTE deployable asset(s) if it is an emergent short notice event.

The carrier deploying the mobile assets should contact the ISICS Network Operations Center and Statewide Interoperability Coordinator (SWIC) or other designee upon a deployment.

The SWIC or other designee shall then coordinate with the local public safety LMR system owner/operators in the area where such deployable will be stationed.

Such coordination should be consistent with the interference coordination and abatement requirements of the Federal Communications Commission, the practices contained in CTIA's [Wireless Network Resiliency Cooperative Framework – Best Practices for Enhancing Emergency and Disaster Preparedness and Restoration](#)²; and the responsibilities of the licensee of the local public safety agency's and/or State of Iowa's LMR system.

Mobile LTE deployments shall operate consistent with the FCC's requirements to not cause interference to existing lawfully operating fixed LMR network infrastructure. Additionally, carriers shall not deploy mobile LTE vehicles unless they comply with FCC's requirements to not cause interference to existing lawfully operating fixed LMR network infrastructure.

¹ [Iowa Code 22.7](#)

² [Wireless Network Resiliency Cooperative Framework – Best Practices for Enhancing Emergency and Disaster Preparedness and Restoration](#)