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(i) If a bid is withdrawn before the bidder has declared the bidding to be closed for the BTA service area bid on, no bid withdrawal payment will be assessed.

(ii) If a bid is withdrawn after the Commission has declared the bidding to be closed for the BTA service area bid on, the bid withdrawal payment of paragraphs (a) (1) and (2) of this section will apply.

(c) If a winning bidder withdraws its bid after the Commission has declared competitive bidding closed or fails to remit the required down payment within five (5) business days after the Commission has declared competitive bidding closed, the bidder will be deemed to have defaulted, its application will be dismissed, and it will be liable for the default payment specified in paragraph (a)(2) of this section. In such event, the Commission may either re-auction the BTA service area to existing or new applicants or offer it to the other highest bidders (in descending order) at their final bids.

(d) A winning bidder who is found unqualified to be an MDS station licensee, fails to remit the balance of its winning bid in a timely manner, or defaults or is disqualified for any reason after having made the required down payment, will be deemed to have defaulted and will be liable for the payment set forth in paragraph (a)(2) of this section. In such event, the Commission will generally conduct another auction for the BTA service area, affording new parties an opportunity to file applications for such service area.

(e) Bidders who are found to have violated the antitrust laws or the Commission's rules in connection with their participation in the MDS competitive bidding process may be subject, in addition to any other applicable sanctions, to loss of their upfront payment, down payment or full bid amount, and may be prohibited from participating in future auctions.

[60 FR 36560, July 17, 1995, as amended at 63 FR 2348, Jan. 15, 1998]

**§ 21.960 Designated entity provisions for MDS.**

(a) *Designated entities.* As specified in this section, designated entities that are winning bidders for BTA service

areas are eligible for special incentives in the auction process. See 47 CFR 1.2110.

(b) *Installment payments.* Small businesses and small business consortia may elect to pay the full amount of their winning bids for BTA service areas in installments over a ten (10) year period running from the date that their BTA authorizations are issued.

(1) Each eligible winning bidder paying for its BTA authorization(s) on an installment basis must deposit by wire transfer or cashier's check in the manner specified in § 21.955 sufficient additional funds as are necessary to bring its total deposits to ten (10) percent of its winning bid(s) within five (5) business days after the Commission has declared it the winning bidder and closed the bidding. Failure to remit the required payment will make the bidder liable for the payments set forth in § 21.959(a)(2).

(2) Within five (5) business days following release of the public notice stating that the BTA authorization of a winning bidder eligible for installment payments is ready to be issued, the winning bidder shall pay another ten (10) percent of its winning bid, thereby commencing the eligible bidder's installment payment plan. The Commission will issue the BTA authorization to the eligible winning bidder within ten (10) business days following notification of receipt of this additional ten (10) percent payment. Failure to remit the required payment will make the bidder liable for the payments set forth in § 21.959(a)(2).

(3) Upon issuance of a BTA authorization to a winning bidder eligible for installment payments, the Commission will notify such eligible BTA authorization holder of the terms of its installment payment plan. For MDS, such installment payment plans will:

(i) Impose interest based on the rate of ten (10) year U.S. Treasury obligations at the time of issuance of the BTA authorization, plus two and one half (2.5) percent;

(ii) Allow installment payments for a ten (10) year period running from the date that the BTA authorization is issued;

(iii) Begin with interest-only payments for the first two (2) years; and

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(iv) Amortize principal and interest over the remaining years of the ten (10) year period running from the date that the BTA authorization is issued.

(4) Conditions and obligations. *See* § 1.2110(f)(4) of this chapter.

(5) Unjust enrichment. (i) If an eligible BTA authorization holder that utilizes installment financing under this paragraph seeks to assign or transfer control of its BTA authorization to an entity not meeting the eligibility standards for installment payments, the holder must make full payment of the remaining unpaid principal and any unpaid interest accrued through the date of assignment or transfer as a condition of approval. If an eligible BTA authorization holder that utilizes installment financing under this subsection seeks to partition, pursuant to § 21.931, a portion of its BTA containing one-third or more of the population of the area within its control in the licensed BTA to an entity not meeting the eligibility standards for installment payments, the holder must make full payment of the remaining unpaid principal and any unpaid interest accrued through the date of partition as a condition of approval.

(ii) If a BTA authorization holder that utilizes installment financing under this subsection seeks to make any change in ownership structure that would result in the holder losing eligibility for installment payments, the holder shall first seek Commission approval and must make full payment of the remaining unpaid principal and any unpaid interest accrued through the date of the change in ownership structure as a condition of approval. Increases in gross revenues that result from revenues from operations, business development or expanded service shall not be considered changes in ownership structure under this paragraph.

(c) *Reduced upfront payments.* A prospective bidder that qualifies as a small business, or as a small business consortia, is eligible for a twenty-five (25) percent reduction in the amount of the upfront payment required by § 21.954. To be eligible to bid on a particular BTA, a small business will be required to submit an upfront payment equal to seventy-five (75) percent of the upfront payment amount specified for

that BTA in the public notice listing the upfront payment amounts corresponding to each BTA service area being auctioned.

(d) *Bidding credits.* A winning bidder that qualifies as a small business, or as a small business consortia, may use a bidding credit of fifteen (15) percent to lower the cost of its winning bid on any of the BTA authorizations awarded in the MDS auction.

(1) Unjust enrichment. *See* § 1.2111 of this chapter.

(2) [Reserved]

(e) *Short-form application certification; Long-form application or statement of intention disclosure.* An MDS applicant claiming designated entity status shall certify on its short-form application that it is eligible for the incentives claimed. A designated entity that is a winning bidder for a BTA service area(s) shall, in addition to information required by § 21.956(b), file an exhibit to either its initial long-form application for an MDS station license, or to its statement of intention with regard to the BTA, which discloses the gross revenues for each of the past three years of the winning bidder and its affiliates. This exhibit shall describe how the winning bidder claiming status as a designated entity satisfies the designated entity eligibility requirements, and must list and summarize all agreements that affect designated entity status, such as partnership agreements, shareholder agreements, management agreements and other agreements, including oral agreements, which establish that the designated entity will have both *de facto* and *de jure* control of the entity. *See* 47 CFR 1.2110(i).

(f) *Records maintenance.* All holders of BTA authorizations acquired by auction that claim designated entity status shall maintain, at their principal place of business or with their designated agent, an updated documentary file of ownership and revenue information necessary to establish their status. Holders of BTA authorizations or their successors in interest shall maintain such files for a ten (10) year period running from the date that their BTA authorizations are issued. The files must be made available to the Commission upon request.

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(g) *Audits.* BTA authorization holders claiming eligibility under designated entity provisions shall be subject to audits by the Commission, using in-house or contract resources. Selection for an audit may be random, on information, or on the basis of other factors. Consent to such audits is part of the certification included in the short-form application. Such consent shall include consent to the audit of the holders' books, documents and other material (including accounting procedures and practices), regardless of form or type, sufficient to confirm that such holders' representations are, and remain, accurate. Such consent shall also include inspection at all reasonable times of the facilities, or parts thereof, engaged in providing and transacting business or keeping records regarding licensed MDS offerings, and shall also include consent to the interviewing of principals, employees, customers, and suppliers of the BTA authorization holders.

pendent business firms, each of which individually satisfies the definition of a small business.

(c) Gross revenues shall mean all income received by an entity, whether earned or passive, before any deductions are made for costs of doing business (e.g., cost of goods sold), as evidenced by audited financial statements for the preceding relevant number of calendar years, or, if audited financial statements were not prepared on a calendar-year basis, for the preceding relevant number of fiscal years. If an entity was not in existence for all or part of the relevant period, gross revenues shall be evidenced by the audited financial statements of the entity's predecessor-in-interest or, if there is no identifiable predecessor-in-interest, unaudited financial statements certified by the applicant as accurate.

(d) The definition of an affiliate of an applicant is set forth in 47 CFR 1.2110(b)(4).

[60 FR 36560, July 17, 1995, as amended at 60 FR 57367, Nov. 15, 1995; 63 FR 2348, Jan. 15, 1998]

[60 FR 36562, July 17, 1995, as amended at 60 FR 57368, Nov. 15, 1995]

**§21.961 Definitions applicable to designated entity provisions.**

(a) Scope. The definitions in this section apply to §21.960, unless otherwise specified in that section.

(b) Small business; consortium of small businesses.

(1) A small business is an entity that together with its affiliates has average annual gross revenues that are not more than \$40 million for the preceding three calendar years.

(2) *Aggregation of gross revenues.*

(i) Except as specified in paragraph (b)(2)(ii) of this section, the gross revenues of the applicant (or BTA authorization holder) and its affiliates shall be considered on a cumulative basis and aggregated for purposes of determining whether the applicant (or holder) is a small business.

(ii) Where an applicant (or BTA authorization holder) is a consortium of small businesses, the gross revenues of each small business shall not be aggregated.

(3) A small business consortium is a conglomerate organization formed as a joint venture between mutually-inde-

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