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## C-Band Alliance No Longer Represents United Front

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**Issue:** Today, Eutelsat announced that it would leave the C-Band Alliance (CBA) to “*take a direct active part in the discussion on C-Band clearing and repurposing.*”

**Impact:** The CBA, which comprised the 4 major satellite operators—Intelsat, SES, Telesat and Eutelsat—in the C-Band 3700-4200 MHz spectrum airwaves, has so far promoted its own proposal to repurpose these airwaves as the best option largely because it enjoyed the support of all satellite operators. The CBA is pushing for a private auction of 200 MHz with a voluntary contribution of a portion of the proceeds to the U.S. Treasury. To hold such an auction, all satellite operators must both agree to participate and agree to the overall price, and the amount, of spectrum being auctioned. Without Eutelsat, the CBA’s negotiating power with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is diminished and undermines the CBA’s purpose for existing.

**Next Steps:** While it is true that Eutelsat is a one of the smaller operators in the CBA, its departure indicates that there is still a high level of disagreement within the CBA over the C-Band auction. Negotiations between the FCC and CBA are ongoing, but without consensus even within the CBA as to the path forwards it is difficult to imagine the FCC deciding on the matter in the short-term. Considering the complexity of the process and lack of consensus, ACG Analytics believes that it is unlikely the FCC takes anything other than incremental steps during the Fall.

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