# FM Broadcasting compatibility analysis tool based on Article 4 of the GE84 Agreement

#### 1. Introduction:

**The GE84 compatibility analysis tool** is designed to assist administrations in the planning and coordination of their VHF-FM sound broadcasting services, in the frequency band **87.5-108 MHz**, in accordance with the GE84 Agreement.

The summary of the GE84 procedure on article 4 and the relevant flowchart are available on: http://www.itu.int/en/ITU-R/terrestrial/broadcast/Pages/FMTV.aspx

This new functionality, which can be accessed via a TIES user account, is part of **eBroadcasting** and can be found under **eTools** at: <a href="https://www.itu.int/ITU-R/eTerrestrial/ECalculations">https://www.itu.int/ITU-R/eTerrestrial/ECalculations</a>

The software is running field strength calculations at the transmitter site of the proposed modification with respect to other assignments in the GE84 Plan (recorded assignments and, possibly, proposed modifications), in the frequency band 87.5-108 MHz. The examination is also considering the ST61 Plan entries recorded in the frequency band 87.5-100 MHz.

An additional GE84 functionality will be delivered at a later stage a

to allow users to perform a detailed analysis on frequency assignments published in Part A of a specific GE84 Special Section to assess their impact on your own frequency assignments.

# 2. Modules:

#### 2.1. Compatibility analysis

# **2.1.1.** Purpose

Assess the impact to and from other emissions of a new or existing FM service, in accordance with Article 4 procedure of the Agreement. The values are calculated by the method contained in Annex 2, Chapter 4, at the transmitter site of the stations which are likely to be affected.

# 2.1.2. Options:

# - Consider only the 20 Top major contributors:

It is set by default, based on provision §6.2 of Chapter 6 of Annex 2 to of the GE84 Agreement for calculation of the usable filed strength (Eu) of your proposed modification. If this option is disregarded, all the contributors are considered.

#### - Consider Tip:

By default, the ongoing modifications to the GE84 Plan (TIP notices) are not considered. Only the assignments recorded in the GE84 Plan are considered, in accordance with Article 4 procedure for determining the reference usable field strength of an assignment to be protected, published on the BRIFIC as part of the Reference Situation.

If this option is considered, TIP notices are considered in the calculations.

#### - Consider TV station:

By default, the television stations recorded in the ST61 Plan, are considered in the calculations.

If this option is not considered, only FM stations are considered.

#### - Consider Polarization discrimination:

By default, a polarization discrimination of 10 dB is considered in the calculations, in accordance with §3.8.3 of Chapter 3 of Annex 2 to the GE84 Agreement. This value can be changed.

If this option is not considered, no polarization discrimination shall be applied.

#### - Use P.1812 propagation model:

If this option is selected, the detailed calculations will be performed using the propagation model described in Recommendation ITU-R P.1812 taking into account SRTM3 terrain data. Please note that, for this mode, the calculation time is significantly longer. For that reason, the tool accepts a file with a maximum of **50 notices**.

# 2.1.3 Input:

Electronic Notice File (one file per job). The electronic notice file can be created using *TerRaNotices* from the BRIFIC DVD or, if you are an *eBroadcasting* user, you can generate it from **myAdmin** or **eQry** as follows:

**eQry**: define the selection criteria (one administration only), push the button *Apply Filter* to display the summary list and the selected notices appear or,

**myAdmin**: click on the number of notices corresponding to the group of notices of interest. When the summary list appears, it is possible to further refine the selection criteria by ticking the checkbox Use Filter.

Push the button Generate e-notices (Export to SGML).

When the notice file is ready, an email is sent to the TIES user mailbox and the output notice file is available for download from eTools (Notice Generation option).

<u>Important:</u> It is highly recommended to previously validate the file using the web-based on-line validation tool available at:

https://www.itu.int/ITU-R/eTerrestrial or https://www.itu.int/ITU-R/eTerrestrial/eValidation

#### 2.1.4 Output:

Interference field strength to and from your proposed modification(s) to other stations (identified as contributors) and resulting usable field strength at transmitter site.

# 2.2 Analysis of Plan entries based on query filter (without generating electronic notices).

will be proposed at a later stage

# 3. How to use GE84 compatibility analysis:

# 3.1. Electronic notice preparation

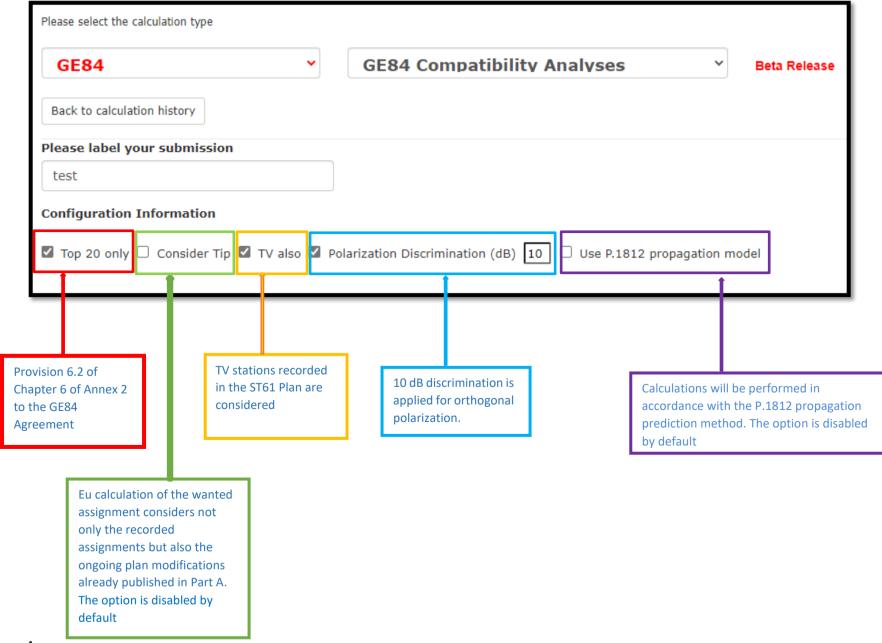
Prepare and validate your notice file as mentioned in section 2.1.3 above and save the file on your computer.

**Note**: If your file contains a frequency assignment (frequency & coordinates) already RECORDED in the Plan, make sure that you are submitting a "MODIFY" notice targeting the RECORDED entry if you do not want it to be considered twice in the calculations.

### 3.2. Start the compatibility analysis

- 1. Login to <a href="https://www.itu.int/ITU-R/eTerrestrial/ECalculations">https://www.itu.int/ITU-R/eTerrestrial/ECalculations</a> (TIES account needed).
- 2. Push the button New Calculation.
- 3. Select the **GE84 Compatibility Analyses** option.
- 4. Submit the electronic notice file to **eTools** for GE84 Compatibility Analyses by uploading the notice file prepared for the GE84 Compatibility Analyses.
- 5. Push the button **New Calculation**, check the options in the configuration information.
- 6. Upload the electronic notice file and submit it (Submit button).

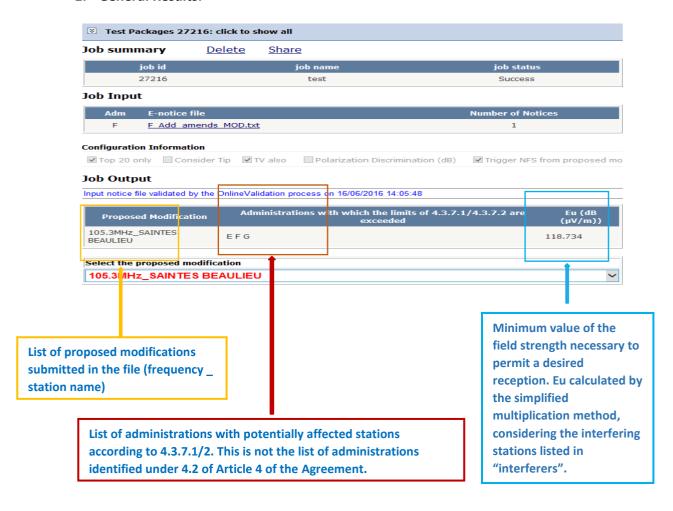
Note: You will be notified at your TIES email account when the job is complete. You can also monitor the status of your submission by going back to the calculation history.



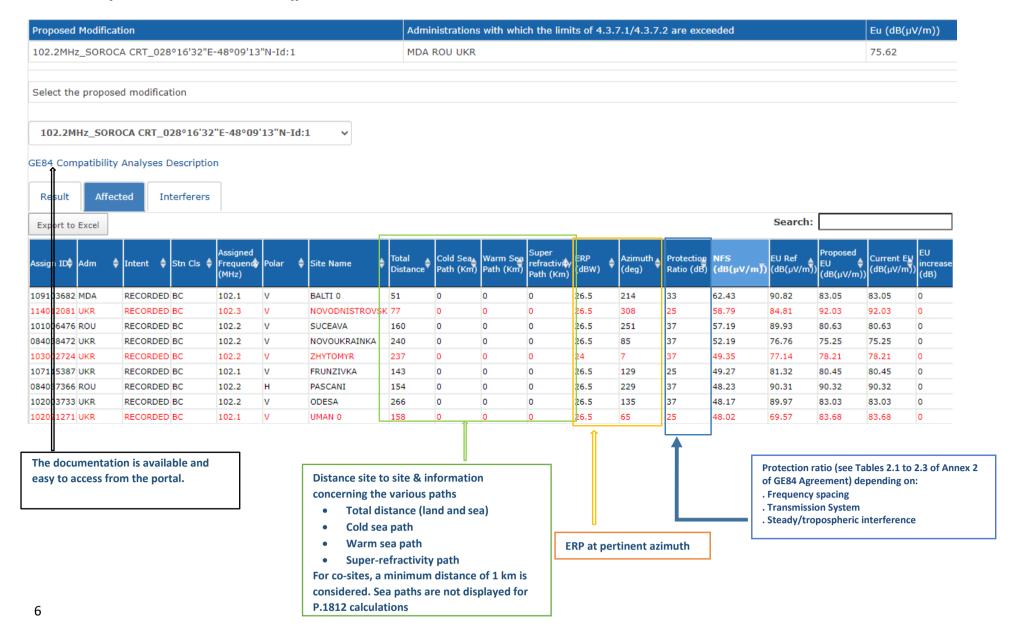
# 4. Analysis of the Compatibility Results

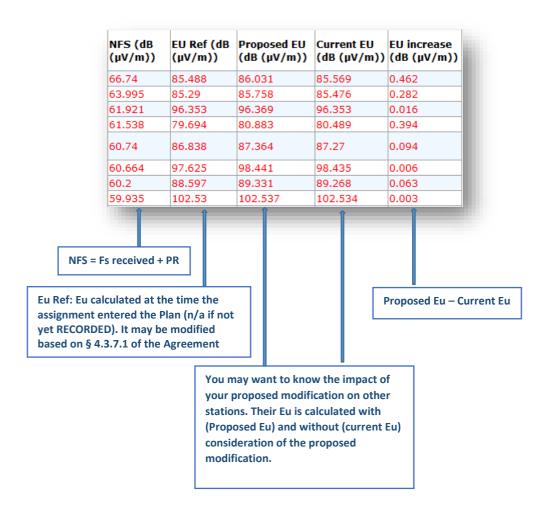
# Description of calculation results made in conformity with 4.3.7.1/4.3.7.2 of the Regional Agreement, Geneva 1984

#### 1. General Results:



# 2. Interference to other emissions: "affected"





#### Note:

# The line is red:

• When the resulting "Proposed Eu", taking into consideration the proposed modification, is greater than 54 dB( $\mu$ V/m), for protection of FM stations and 52 dB( $\mu$ V/m), for protection of TV stations,

# and,

• the same proposed Eu is increased by more than 0.5 dB compared with the reference usable field strength, as described in §4.3.7.1 and 4.3.7.2 of the Agreement.

These limits are also applied to identify the potentially affected administrations.

# Eu Ref calculations are:

- Considering only the recorded assignments.
- Not considering polarization discrimination.
- Considering ST61 TV stations, if present.

Current and Proposed Eu calculations:

• Their calculation depends on the filters chosen. If polarization discrimination or notices in process are considered, the values of Eu may be lower than the Eu Ref. The results will not be in line with the Article 4 calculations published on the BRIFIC. However, they are very useful during the planning and coordination process.

If the proposed modification is a MODIFY notice, its target is considered in the evaluation of the current Eu. It is replaced by the MODIFY notice for the evaluation of the proposed Eu.

3. Interference from other emissions: list of interferers (only 20 if top 20 contributors selected in the configuration)

