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March 4, 1992

ET Docket No. 92-9

Ralph A. Haller, Chief of the Private Ratio Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
2025 M Street, N.W., Room 5002
Washington, D.C. 20554

RECEIVED

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Dear Chief Haller,

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

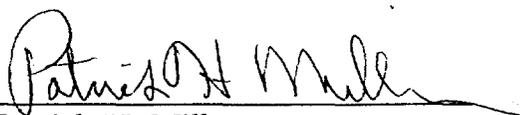
We are writing to express our deep concern over a proposal by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) which would strip the Metropolitan Water District of a key communications microwave frequency used in the operation of the Colorado River Aqueduct. This action could cost Southern California water users \$1.5 million to replace this frequency, but without providing any net improvement in the District's current communications capabilities.

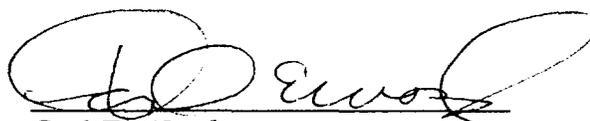
Metropolitan has already spent substantial sums to acquire the communications network necessary to effectively run the aqueduct, which stretches 242 miles across the desert and provides a considerable portion of the Southland's drinking water. The FCC's proposal to take away a vital microwave link in this system is unfair and unnecessary. In your capacity as FCC Commissioner, we strongly urge you to drop this proposal.

The FCC's plan would take away the microwave frequency upon which the District has relied since 1987 to communicate with its most remote desert field stations. If this occurs, Metropolitan will have to purchase access to another frequency and construct additional transmitters in the desert to accommodate that new frequency which could prove difficult under the Desert Protection Act.

As members of Metropolitan's Board of Directors, we thank you for your continuing interest in Metropolitan and Southern California's important water issues.

Sincerely,


Patrick H. Miller


Carl E. Ward

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