



January 25, 2017

The Honorable Ajit Pai, Chairman
The Honorable Mignon Clyburn, Commissioner
The Honorable Michael O'Rielly, Commissioner
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Pai, Commissioner Clyburn and Commissioner O'Rielly:

The American Trucking Associations, AAA, the Association of Global Automakers, the Intelligent Transportation Society of America, and the National Safety Council have joined together forming the Safety Spectrum Coalition to promote connected vehicle technology and protect the 5.9 GHz safety spectrum it relies on to save lives. As you know, on December 13th, the Department of Transportation (DOT) issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) to establish a rule requiring an interoperable standard for vehicle-to-vehicle (V2V) communications to provide secure and anonymous safety support for both conventional and automated passenger vehicles. The Safety Spectrum Coalition is encouraged by the release of the NPRM and looks forward to working with federal agencies and stakeholders to ensure that this technology is deployed on our roads as quickly as possible.

The proposed rule would create a new Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard requiring all light-duty vehicles produced after 2023, with a phase-in beginning 2021, to support V2V applications to mitigate and prevent vehicle crashes. The proposal contains performance requirements based on the unique characteristics of Dedicated Short Range Communications (DSRC) technology. Most importantly, the proposed V2V motor vehicle safety standard estimates that DSRC would save thousands of lives, avoid millions of injuries, and yield cost savings of as much as \$270 billion.

This proposed rule represents the culmination of over a decade of work and investments by the federal government, state governments, research institutions, technical standards organizations, technology companies and automakers. Whereas in the past, progress was measured in small increments with improvements in vehicle crash survivability, the DSRC effort seeks to improve traffic safety by radically improving the capabilities of vehicles to coordinate movements to avoid crashes altogether. To achieve this goal, engineers have developed a robust, interoperable and secure communications protocol within DSRC to allow cars and trucks to transmit data directly from one vehicle to another at the rate of ten times per second. V2V technology also does not involve the exchange of information linked or linkable to an individual and has extensive privacy and security controls in place. V2V communications will create a standardized environment serving as the backdrop for a vehicle safety application ecosystem, unleashing

developers to innovate in furtherance of roadway safety. In addition, USDOT just released formal guidance to the states that addresses how public agencies may deploy DSRC to support Vehicle-to-Infrastructure communications to reduce injuries and fatalities, speed emergency services, and mitigate or eliminate congestion. The research and testing are done, and the results are in. The federal government is moving forward with this technology expeditiously in order to save lives.

As you know, there are safety-critical applications in development for all channels of the DSRC band. While V2V communications are a huge leap forward in safety, other applications, like commercial truck platooning, vehicle-to-infrastructure, vehicle-to-pedestrian communications, and DSRC support for automated driving are also critical to roadway safety. The NPRM and forthcoming final rule will provide the transportation industry, including original equipment manufacturers and aftermarket suppliers, with the standardization and certainty they need to increase deployments of this revolutionary technology.

Our Coalition fully supports the FCC spectrum sharing testing protocols to ensure no harmful interference throughout the band. However, we are opposed to the rechannelization of the band, and we do not believe testing the rechannelization option should hold up the implementation of DSRC or the DOT NPRM. We must continue to make safety of the traveling public a priority.

Sincerely,

Marshall Doney
President and CEO
AAA

Chris Spear
President and CEO
American Trucking Associations

John Bozzella
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Association of Global Automakers

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