

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-1303

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December 4, 2017

The Honorable Elaine L. Chao
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

The Honorable Ajit Pai
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW, Washington, DC 20554

Dear Secretary Chao and Chairman Pai:

Connected and automated vehicles are now on the verge of transforming how we think about transportation. The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Department of Transportation (DOT) can act to enable the deployment of vehicle-to-vehicle, vehicle-to-infrastructure, and vehicle-to-pedestrian connectivity that will lead to significant advances in safety, efficiency, and mobility. I write to inquire about the results of the testing to explore if the 5.9 GHz band, currently allocated for intelligent transportation services, including vehicle safety applications such as Dedicated Short Range Communications (DSRC), can be shared without causing harmful interference to these services. Additionally, I would like to request an update on the coordination between the FCC and DOT regarding this testing.

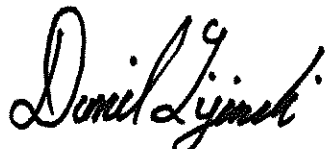
In July 2016 the FCC announced a spectrum sharing test plan for the 5.9 GHz band which included three phases of testing to be completed by December 31, 2016. It is our understanding that over a year later, while numerous sharing devices have been thoroughly tested, Phase 1 testing is still not complete. It is imperative that the Commission complete Phase 1 testing and release test results in order to move on to Phase 2 and Phase 3. The completion of all three phases of the planned testing is critical to ensure that there is no harmful interference with DSRC operations. As stated in the FCC test plan, no decision on sharing can be made until all testing is complete.

As DOT is the federal agency with the mission to improve safety, it must be an integral part of the testing process. While some recent remarks by FCC Commissioners have suggested opening the 5.9 GHz band for other uses, decisions on appropriate vehicle safety technologies are not the purview of the FCC. I ask that your agencies provide an update on the results of any testing that has been conducted regarding potential harmful interference to DSRC operations and that your

agencies release any pending data or reports to help inform the policy debate on this important issue.

Thank you for work and for your review of this request, and I look forward to hearing from you. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Jonathon Freye at 202-225-5701 or jonathon.frey@mail.house.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Daniel Lipinski". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "D".

DANIEL W. LIPINSKI
Member of Congress



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

February 7, 2018

The Honorable Daniel Lipinski
U.S. House of Representatives
2346 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Lipinski:

Thank you for your letter concerning the 5.9 GHz band. As you may be aware, the Commission is already working with U.S. Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration, which represents the Federal Government on spectrum matters, and the U.S. Department of Transportation to evaluate the possible sharing of spectrum at 5.9 GHz with unlicensed devices on a non-interference basis.

I am pleased to report to you that the Commission's lab staff has completed the Phase I testing and is working on a comprehensive report of those results, which analyzes data from hundreds of individual tests. We will be finalizing the report and coordinating with our Federal partners to determine next steps.

I appreciate your interest in this matter. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Ajit V. Pai". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ajit" being the most prominent part. Below the signature, the name "Ajit V. Pai" is printed in a standard serif font.

Ajit V. Pai