

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

290

May 16, 2019

The Honorable Ajit Pai  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Pai:

It has come to our attention that in March of this year the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) adopted a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) in WT Docket No. 17-200. As you are aware, this NPRM proposes to reconfigure “the 900 MHz band to facilitate the use of wireless broadband.” While we fully support the FCC’s actions to make spectrum available for commercial use, especially for next generation 5G mobile broadband, we also believe the FCC should remain steadfast in its mission to minimize any unnecessary, and potentially detrimental, radio interference for all users within the 900 MHz band.

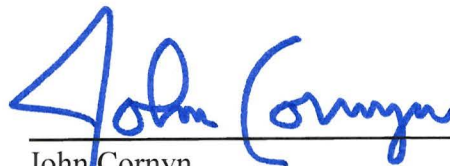
One incumbent who operates in the 900 MHz band is the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) in Texas, which uses the 900 MHz band to conduct its services along the lower Colorado River basin. Specifically, the LCRA currently operates a radio network on the 900 MHz band, which it shares with more than 45 cities, counties, electric utilities and other public safety organizations and first-responders, to carry out mission-critical communications. The LCRA also maintains over 275 automated river and weather gauges that solely rely on the 900MHz band to mitigate flooding in Central Texas.

We would like to thank your staff for meeting with, and listening to, the LCRA’s concerns in March of this year. As the Commission moves forward in its consideration of the reconfiguration of the 900 MHz band, we ask that you and your staff, consistent with the Commission’s statutory obligations, work to minimize interference issues for all users within the 900 MHz band, including the LCRA, and look forward to the completion of the reconfiguration.

Sincerely,



Ted Cruz  
United States Senator



John Cornyn  
United States Senator



Michael T. McCaul  
Member of Congress



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

May 24, 2019

The Honorable John Cornyn  
United States Senate  
517 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Cornyn:

Thank you for your letter concerning the FCC's work to "make spectrum available for commercial use, especially for next generation 5G mobile broadband," in the 900 MHz band. Over 30 years ago, this band was designated for narrowband communications like two-way dispatch radios used by business, industrial, and land transportation licensees. Under my leadership, the FCC has proposed to make a segment of the 900 MHz band available for broadband, which will improve the user experience. The Commission has also proposed to authorize a market-driven, voluntary exchange process that would allow existing licensees to agree on a plan for relocating incumbents and transitioning the band—smoothing out, in an economically and technically sound way, the transition from point A to point B. I welcome your support for our efforts, and I (like you) look forward to completion of reconfiguration of this band.

I also agree with you that we must minimize any harmful interference that new operations in this band would cause to incumbents like the Lower Colorado River Authority. Mission-critical public-safety communications must be protected. Our staff at the FCC are hard at work to mitigate any disruptions that a reconfiguration of this band may cause, and I am confident that we can move forward in a manner that protects incumbents while maximizing the use of this spectrum for the American public.

Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Ajit V. Pai". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ajit" being the most prominent part.

Ajit V. Pai



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

May 24, 2019

The Honorable Michael McCaul  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2001 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman McCaul:

Thank you for your letter concerning the FCC's work to "make spectrum available for commercial use, especially for next generation 5G mobile broadband," in the 900 MHz band. Over 30 years ago, this band was designated for narrowband communications like two-way dispatch radios used by business, industrial, and land transportation licensees. Under my leadership, the FCC has proposed to make a segment of the 900 MHz band available for broadband, which will improve the user experience. The Commission has also proposed to authorize a market-driven, voluntary exchange process that would allow existing licensees to agree on a plan for relocating incumbents and transitioning the band—smoothing out, in an economically and technically sound way, the transition from point A to point B. I welcome your support for our efforts, and I (like you) look forward to completion of reconfiguration of this band.

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Ajit V. Pai



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

May 24, 2019

The Honorable Ted Cruz  
United States Senate  
404 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Cruz:

Thank you for your letter concerning the FCC's work to "make spectrum available for commercial use, especially for next generation 5G mobile broadband," in the 900 MHz band. Over 30 years ago, this band was designated for narrowband communications like two-way dispatch radios used by business, industrial, and land transportation licensees. Under my leadership, the FCC has proposed to make a segment of the 900 MHz band available for broadband, which will improve the user experience. The Commission has also proposed to authorize a market-driven, voluntary exchange process that would allow existing licensees to agree on a plan for relocating incumbents and transitioning the band—smoothing out, in an economically and technically sound way, the transition from point A to point B. I welcome your support for our efforts, and I (like you) look forward to completion of reconfiguration of this band.

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Ajit V. Pai