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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

10 FEB 1993

IN REPLY REFER TO:
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Honorable Mark O. Hatfield
United States Senator
One World Trade Center
121 S.W. Salmon, Suite 1420
Portland, Oregon 97204

Dear Senator Hatfield:

This is in reply to your letter of January 27, 1993, in which you inquired on behalf of your constituent, Charles T. Dishman, regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

Those rules have been in place for over 20 years. While they have been amended on numerous occasions since that time, they nonetheless embody regulatory concepts based on yesteryear's technology and, unless changed, will stifle the growth and development of private land mobile radio technology and services, which are used primarily by local governments, public safety entities, and businesses to enhance their productivity. The Commission issued the Notice, therefore, to solicit comment from all interested persons on a wide variety of proposals designed to increase channel capacity, to promote more efficient use of these channels, and to simplify the rules governing use of these channels.

The proposals in the Notice reflect to a large extent concepts and proposals submitted in the initial inquiry stages of this proceeding. None of the proposals set forth in the Notice, however, are engraved in stone. Indeed, the proposals represent our best judgment at this stage of the proceeding on steps that must be taken to improve the regulatory climate for users of the private land mobile radio spectrum below 512 MHz. To this end, some of the critical issues that must be resolved relate to channel spacing, the amount of time provided to users to convert to new technical standards, how the 300 to 500 percent increase in channel capacity should be licensed, how the rules should be written to provide users technical flexibility, and whether the current nineteen radio services should be consolidated and, if so, how. I have enclosed for your information a copy of that part of the Notice that describes the numerous proposals.

Mr. Dishman is specifically concerned about the impact of these changes on radio control (R/C) hobby users. Enclosed is a discussion paper concerning our proposals for the 72-76 MHz band. In short, we expect there would be no adverse impact on R/C operations because of any proposal contained in the Notice.

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We are, of course, sensitive to the concerns of both users of private land mobile radio spectrum and R/C hobbyists. We will, therefore, take into careful consideration all their comments. Your constituent's concerns will be fully evaluated when we develop final rules in this proceeding. As indicated in the Notice, we remain convinced that without significant regulatory change in radio operations in the bands below 512 MHz, the quality of communications in the private land mobile radio services will continue to deteriorate to the point of endangering public safety and the national economy.

We want to thank you for your interest in this proceeding. Comments on the proposals set forth in the Notice are due February 26, 1993, and Reply Comments are due April 14, 1993. We expect final rules to be issued near the end of 1993. We urge your constituent to file formal comments on all aspects of the proposals.

Sincerely,

Ralph A. Haller
Chief, Private Radio Bureau

Enclosures:
Notice
Discussion paper

Congressional

DUE 2-10-93

PLEASE MAKE 2 EXTRA COPIES OF INCOMING, ATTACHMENTS,
AND REPLY FOR DOCKET FILE, ROOM 222.

CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING SYSTEM
02/02/93

LETTER REPORT

CONTROL NO.	DATE RECEIVED	DATE OF CORRESP	DATE DUE	DATE DUE OLA(857)
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TITLE	MEMBERS NAME	REPLY FOR SIG OF
Senator	Mark Hatfield	BC

CONSTITUENT'S NAME	SUBJECT
Charles Dishman	inq. comments on PR Docket 92-235

REF TO	REF TO	REF TO	REF TO
PRE/mm			
5-3-93			
DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE
02/02/93			

REMARKS: Respond to the Portland, OR office.

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SPECIAL DISTRICTS CENTER
727 CENTER STREET N.E., SUITE 305
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WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3701

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PORTLAND, OREGON 97204

PRB
92-235
358

January 27, 1993

Ms. Linda Townsend Solheim
Federal Communications Commission
Director, Legislative Affairs
1919 M Street N.W., Room 800
Washington, D.C. 20554

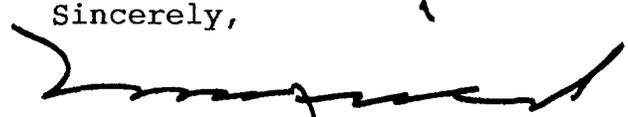
Dear Ms. Solheim:

Enclosed please find a copy of a letter I recently received from Mr. Charles Dishman.

I would be very grateful for your comments about the issues raised in this letter. So that I can respond to this individual, please send your comments to me at One World Trade Center, 121 S.W. Salmon, Suite 1420, Portland, Oregon 97204.

With kind regards.

Sincerely,



Mark O. Hatfield
United States Senator

MOH/tr
Enclosure
97875

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PRIVATE

Tim

C. T. Dishman
31615 S. W. Village Crest Court
Wilsonville, Oregon 97070

Dear Senator Hatfield: Jan 19, 1993

I am retired and as a hobby I spend many hours constructing and operating radio controlled model airplanes.

Myself and members of our club, "The Portland Barnstormers" are very concerned under proposed rules by the Federal Communications Commission. The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235 which if adopted will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies now assigned for model use and increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability for controlling model planes.

At present our frequencies 72-76 MHz are shared with private land mobile dispatch operations. At present theirs and our radio frequencies are far enough apart so we share the band without interfering with one another.

Now FCC wants to create more frequencies by splitting them into narrower bandwidths. This will probably cause interference to radio control airplane operators causing crashes sometimes resulting in property damage or personal injury and of course loss of a very expensive airplane.

Please don't allow FCC to carry out its proposals for the 72-76 MHz band.

Sincerely
Charles T. Dishman