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June 23, 1993

IN REPLY REFER TO:

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JUN 25 1993

Mr. Richard Petricek
Chairman
High Hill Volunteer Fire Department
Route 4, Box 411
McAlester, Oklahoma 74501

92235

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Mr. Petricek:

This is in reply to your letter of March 29, 1993, to President Clinton

Correspondence# 672325

PRB
PY
1128

672325

March 29, 1993

~~Harvey Jackson~~
FCC
F.R. FCC

The President
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President,

The Pittsburg County Firefighters Association just recently received information on the Re-Farming of the Radio Frequencies as proposed by the Federal Communications which would require everyone in the State operating radios below 512 MHz to have the system changed in 1996.

This is going to cause a real hardship to the Twenty-six (26) volunteer fire departments in Pittsburg County as well as everyone else who depends on the present radio system for communication.

Of the Twenty-six (26) volunteer fire departments using the present system, the cost of a new system will be prohibitive, since all small volunteer fire departments have an operating budget of about \$1,000 a year, in order to continue to protect the communities in rural Pittsburg County with rescue and fire protection. It has taken MANY years and a lot of money to equip these fire departments with effective communication systems. EXAMPLE:

Each Dept. - 5 Radio's @ \$400.00	-----	\$2,000.00
Each Dept. - 2 Portables @ \$350.00	-----	\$ 700.00
Each Dept. - 12 Pagers @ \$300.00	-----	\$3,600.00
Each Fire Dept. TOTAL		<u>\$6,300.00</u>

Twenty-Six fire departments - 26 X \$6,300.00 = \$163,800.00 TOTAL

Projected new system: EXAMPLE:

Each Dept. - 5 Radio's @ \$750.00	-----	\$3,750.00
Each Dept. - 2 Portables @ \$50.00	-----	\$ 900.00
Each Dept. - 12 Pagers @ \$500.00	-----	\$6,000.00
Each Fire Dept. TOTAL		<u>\$10,650.00</u>

Twenty-Six fire departments - 26 X \$10,650.00 = \$276,900.00 TOTAL

The cost to change this system is a great amount of money just for the Fire Band Network in Pittsburg County, and there are 77 counties involved in the programs. As you can see, we already have spent a lot of money to help our residents and this past expenditures will be thrown away by the new system and none of us have funds to purchase the cost of any new equipment in order to stay in step. If you permit this change, PLEASE get funds set aside to help make this change over possible for the small volunteer fire departments.

We are sincerely asking you to help our rural residents by stopping this Frequency Re-Farming by the Federal Communications Commission PR Docket 92-235.

Respectfully,



Richard Petricek, Chairman
High Hill Volunteer Fire Department
Rt. 4, Box 411
McAlester, OK 74501