

December 13, 2021

Jessica Rosenworcel
Chairwoman
Federal Communications Commission
45 L Street, NE
Washington, DC 20554

Evelyn Remaley
Acting Administrator
National Telecommunications and Information Administration
1401 Constitution Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20230

Re: 5G and Radio Altimeters

Dear Chairwoman Rosenworcel and Acting Administrator Remaley,

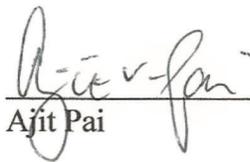
As former Chairmen of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), we understand well the difficulty in balancing the competing spectrum interests of the public and private sectors. We are concerned about the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) recent efforts to revisit the FCC's 2020 decision to expand flexible use of the C-band for 5G, which followed almost two years of careful review of the public record. The FAA should work with the FCC and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), the federal agency that manages federal spectrum use and speaks for federal stakeholders, to assess and resolve the FAA's concerns expeditiously, but this debate should not be fought publicly in a way that undermines consumer confidence in the process, nor should it require months of additional delays.

The FCC has long worked collaboratively on spectrum management with NTIA. The process is designed to surface and resolve precisely the types of interference issues being raised here and to do so well in advance of licensing and service launch. It also provides the

opportunity for federal government stakeholders to raise--and defend with reliable data--their concerns about interference from transitioning spectrum to new uses. At the end of this process, an FCC decision is reached that reflects the input of all stakeholders and its technical experts on the effective transition of spectrum, consistent with its statutory charge to ensure that new systems do not cause harmful interference. In turn, this decision-making approach provides wireless companies or other license holders with the confidence necessary to invest in the networks that will deliver the innovation that will ensure the U.S. remains the technology leader of the world.

In this case, the FAA position threatens to derail the reasoned conclusions reached by the FCC after years of technical analysis and study. We encourage all stakeholders to work together toward a speedy resolution of the issues in this band, and to ensure these surprises do not become a recurring feature of American spectrum management in the future.

Respectfully submitted,



Ajit Pai



Tom Wheeler



Mignon Clyburn



Julius Genachowski



Michael Copps



Michael Powell