



Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20554

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

The Honorable Tom Harkin  
United States Senate  
531 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510-1502

Dear Senator Harkin:

Thank you for your letter of April 15, 1996, on behalf of your constituent, Thomas Engberg, regarding the Commission's decision to freeze acceptance of paging applications. Mr. Engberg expresses concern that the suspension of processing of paging applications will adversely affect small businesses that provide paging services.

The Commission is currently conducting a rulemaking proceeding that proposes to transition from licensing paging frequencies on a transmitter-by-transmitter basis to a geographic licensing approach, using auctions to award licenses where there are mutually exclusive applications. In conjunction with that proceeding, the Commission initially froze processing of applications for paging frequencies. On April 23, 1996, the Commission released a First Report and Order in ~~WT Docket 95-18~~ and PP Docket 93-253, which adopted interim measures governing the licensing of paging systems and partially lifted the interim freeze for incumbent paging licensees. For your convenience and information, enclosed is a copy of the Press Release concerning the First Report and Order, which includes a summary of the principal decisions made. Specifically, small and medium sized incumbent paging companies will be permitted to expand their service areas if the proposed new site is within 65 kilometers (40 miles) of an authorized and operating site. These interim rules will remain in effect until the Commission adopts final rules in the paging proceeding.

Thank you for your inquiry.

Sincerely,

David L. Furth  
Chief, Commercial Wireless Division  
Wireless Telecommunications Bureau

Enclosure

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TOM HARKIN  
IOWA

(202) 224-3254  
TTY (202) 224-4633  
Tom\_Harkin@Harkin.Senate.Gov

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON DC 20510-1502

COMMITTEES:  
AGRICULTURE  
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LABOR AND HUMAN  
RESOURCES

April 15, 1996

Dan Phythyon  
Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Legal Affairs  
1919 M Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20554

*PRB  
PR-PRC/ins  
2/16*

Dear Dan:

I have recently been contacted by one of my constituents who has a concern over the administration's policy on stopping the issuance of licenses even to those who have gone through the application process. I respectfully ask you to review the administration's policy on this issue and send me a clarification so that I might be able to respond to my constituent's questions. It would be helpful if you could mark your correspondence with my office to the attention of Kim Zimmerman.

Thank you in advance for your assistance on this matter.

Sincerely,

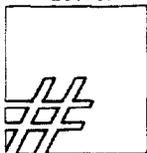


Tom Harkin  
United States Senator

TH/kjz  
Enclosure

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THE HONORABLE TOM HARKIN  
U.S. SENATE  
WASHINGTON DC 20510

Re: FCC Problem

Dear Senator Tom Harkin:

Dear Sir,

I would like to draw your attention to a severe problem brewing at the FCC. They are attempting to freeze the issue of licenses retroactively. This will cause the loss of capital to many people like myself who have complied with the process they dictated months ago, and now they wish to cancel all apps. This will cost me personally over \$7000.00, as well as many other people Please review WT Docket No. 96-18 and PP Docket No. 93-253 and put an enf to this action. It is unfair, and just a form of highway robbery. I am forwarding a copy of the draft my atty. has put together. We need your help on this...please advise Sincerely,

Thomas Engberg  
P.O. Box 1106  
Burlington, Ia. 52601

Sincerely,

T. Engberg

CompuServe Mail: 76130,361