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Dockets



Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

MAY 20 1996

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MAY 23 1996

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

The Honorable J. James Exon
United States Senate
528 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Exon:

Thank you for your letter of April 25, 1996, on behalf of your constituent, Russ Hilliard, regarding the Commission's decision to freeze acceptance of paging applications. Mr. Hilliard 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 96-18 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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Date

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J. JAMES EXON
NEBRASKA

528 SENATE HART BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2702

April 25, 1996

COMMITTEES:
ARMED SERVICES
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TRANSPORTATION
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Propagating*

2152

Federal Communications Commission
Congressional Liaison
1919 M Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554-0001

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am enclosing a letter from:

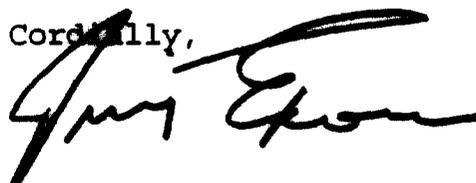
Mr. Russ Hilliard
Cable USA, Inc.
P.O. Box 2299
Scottsbluff, Nebraska 69363-2299

whose problem appears to fall within your jurisdiction.

I would appreciate any information which will enable me to respond to my constituent's inquiry. Please return the enclosed correspondence with your report to:

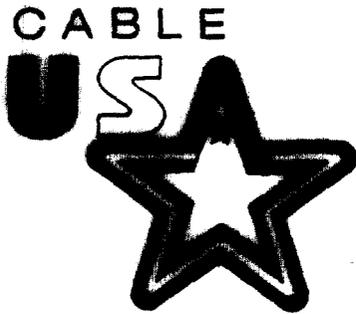
Senator J. James Exon
ATTN: Denise Armstrong
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Cordially,



Jim Exon
United States Senator

Enclosure



April 17, 1996

Mr. Chris McClain
Adm. Director, Senator J. James Exon
528 Hart Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chris:

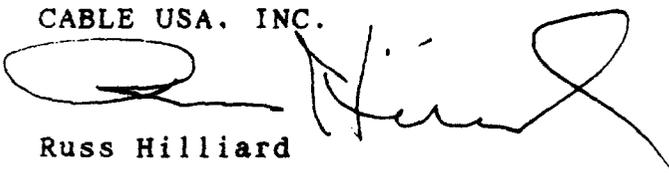
Thank you for taking the time to talk with me with regard to the freeze on Paging Licenses. As I indicated, we would like to see the Federal Communications Commission process the licenses that are already in the pipeline.

As a small businessman, this would help facilitate our ability to compete. With the advent of P.C.S., we need all the help we can get, as the market place will become very competitive, very soon.

Again, thanks! If I can help you out in any way, give me a call.

Yours very truly,

CABLE USA, INC.


Russ Hilliard

RH:at