



Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20554  
DEC 19 1996

Secretary ofc.

RECEIVED

DEC 20 1996

The Honorable Robert E. Andrews  
Member, U.S. House of Representatives  
506A White Horse Pike  
Haddon Heights, NJ 08035

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY



Dear Congressman Andrews:

Thank you for your letter of November 8, 1996, on behalf of your constituent, Chief Larry Smashey, Sr., of the Mantua Volunteer Fire Company, Mantua, New Jersey. Chief Smashey expresses concern that the Commission's recent proposal for developing the initial digital television (DTV) channel allotments would impact the radio communications of emergency response units in the Township of Mantua, New Jersey. Chief Smashey's specific concern is that our proposal to assign DTV stations on channels 18 and 21 in the state of New Jersey, may cause adjacent channel interference to his operations.

On July 25, 1996, the Commission proposed policies for allotting channels for DTV service and also provided a draft DTV Table of Allotments (See Sixth Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, MM Docket No. 87-268, FCC No. 96-317, released August 14, 1996). In that action, the Commission proposed to provide all existing television broadcasters with a second 6MHz channel for digital broadcasting. The Commission's plan for allotment of DTV channels would maintain the channels currently used for land mobile operations in a number of major markets, including channels 19 and 20 in the Philadelphia and adjacent New Jersey region. While our draft DTV Table would provide for use of channel 18 in Secaucus, New Jersey and channel 21 in Vineland, New Jersey, we believe that engineering solutions are available for avoiding interference between DTV and land mobile operations on adjacent frequencies. At the same time, we understand the potential for interference between existing land mobile services and new DTV operations in the Philadelphia/New Jersey region. Please be assured that we are carefully evaluating all available alternatives for maintaining the interests of land mobile operators as well as broadcasters as we develop the DTV Table of Allotments.

Thank you again for your interest in this matter. We will also include a copy of your letter in MM Docket No. 87-268.

Sincerely,

Richard M. Smith  
Chief  
Office of Engineering and Technology

No. of Copies rec'd  
List ABCDE

2

ROBERT E. ANDREWS  
FIRST DISTRICT, NEW JERSEY

COMMITTEE:  
ECONOMIC AND EDUCATIONAL  
OPPORTUNITIES

SUBCOMMITTEES:  
WORKFORCE PROTECTION  
POST SECONDARY EDUCATION  
AND LIFELONG TRAINING

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515-3001

COMMITTEE:  
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS  
SUBCOMMITTEE:  
ASIA

November 8, 1996

*nmb*  
*frequency*  
*6392*

Ms. Linda Townsend Solheim  
Director, Legislative Affairs  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M St NW Rm 808  
Washington, D.C. 20036-3505

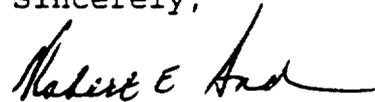
Dear Ms. Solheim:

I write to you on behalf of Chief Larry Smashey, Sr., Mantua Volunteer Fire Company, PO Box 272, Mantua, NJ 08051, who has contacted my office for assistance. Enclosed please find correspondence regarding the emergency response units of Mantua Township, Gloucester County who object to Mass Media Bureau Docket 87-268 in general Docket 96-317. The response units are concerned that the use of radio frequency by the television industry may destroy the radio communications of emergency response units.

I would appreciate if you would afford Chief Smashey all due consideration under the law in his efforts. In addition I would be interested in receiving your review and reply to this correspondence so that I may advise him accordingly.

Please forward your response to the attention of my aide, Ms. Susan Gronek, at 506A White Horse Pike, Haddon Heights, NJ 08035, (609) 546-5100, Fax: (609) 546-9529. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



ROBERT E. ANDREWS  
Member of Congress

REA:smg  
enc.

REPLY TO

2439 RAYBURN BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515 3061  
(202) 275 6501

16 SOMERDALE SQUARE  
SOMERDALE, NJ 08083-1345  
(609) 627 9000

63 N. BROAD STREET  
WOODBURY, NJ 08096-4602  
(609) 848-3900

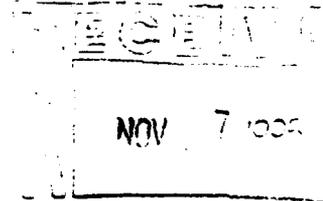
e-mail: [etrandrews@hr.house.gov](mailto:etrandrews@hr.house.gov)

THIS STATIONERY PRINTED ON PAPER MADE OF RECYCLED FIBERS

MANTUA VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY #1

P. O. BOX 272

MANTUA, N. J. 08051



To: Rep. Robert Andrews

From: L. M. Smashev Sr. Chief

Oct. 31, 1996

Dear Sir:

The Emergency response units of the Township of Mantua, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey, strongly object to Mass Media Bureau Docket 87-268 in general Docket 96-317 that permits Channel 65 Vineland, and Channel 9 Secacus N. J. to operate on Freq. from 500 to 512 MHZ.

The use of these Radio Freq. by the Television Industry will total control the radio communications of emergency response units. Whereby threatening the Life and Property of the residents of the community of Mantua Township and County of Gloucester.

The Gloucester County Communications Center and the Emergency response units consisting of, 52 Fire Co's., 28 Ambulance units, 4 Paramedic units, the County Sheriff's Department, several area Hospitals, and all of the local Police Departments. All these have just completed the change over to the 500 MHZ. radio freq. at a multi-million dollar cost to the taxpayers.

The cost to Mantua Township Emergency response units, Fire, Rescue, and Ambulance to again replace the radio and communication units will be in excess of \$100,000.00 dollars. This is an expense the Emergency response units CAN NOT and SHOULD NOT BE FORCED TO OCCURE.

The loss of the use of these radio freq. will cause untold loss of Life and Property due to the interference of the high power television transmissions interrupting Emergency radio transmission of responding units.

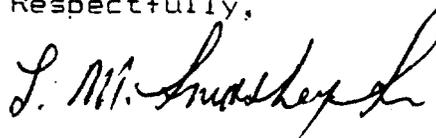
We the Members of the Mantua Township Emergency Units,

Barnsboro Vol. Fire Co.  
Mantua Vol. Fire Co.  
Centre City Vol. Fire Co.  
Sewell Mutual Fire Co.  
Mantua Township Ambulance Squad  
Centre City Ambulance Squad  
Sewell Ambulance Squad

STRONGLY RECOMMEND that for Life Safety concerns, the use of the 500 Radio Freq. be used for the Emergency Response units ONLY. so as to continue the Emergency Service the Residents of OUR Community EXPECT.

Thank You for your consideration in this matter.

Respectfully,



L. M. Smashey Sr. Chief  
609-468-2335