

WT 96-86

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JERALD R. BLECK, DIRECTOR

MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT COOPERATIVE

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

The Honorable Reed F. Hundt
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

10 October 1996

Re: The Development Of Operational
Technical, And Spectrum Requirements,
For Meeting Federal, State, And Local
Public Safety Agency Communication
Requirements Through The Year 2010

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APR 14 1997

WT Docket No. 96-86

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Dear Chairman Hundt:

Police, fire, and emergency medical services all across the country are in desperate need of additional radio communication channels. The Public Safety Wireless Advisory Committee (PSWAC) jointly sponsored by the FCC and NTIA, recently released its "Final Report" which concluded that public safety agencies need at least 2.5 MHz of additional spectrum immediately for interoperability, at least 25 MHz within the next five years, and 70 MHz over the next fifteen years.

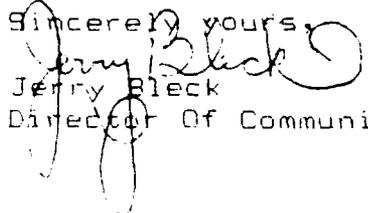
The Cities of Geneva, St. Charles, and Batavia (Illinois) collectively operating under a State of Illinois intergovernmental agreement as Tri-Com 9-1-1 Central Dispatch System, submits this letter in strong support of the PSWAC findings, and urges that the FCC take immediate action to allocate spectrum for public safety use. Public safety agencies in this country face great difficulty in addressing problems of frequency congestion, lack of interoperability, and the inability to implement new communication technologies. The problems are mainly caused by lack of available radio channels. Currently our fire agencies operate on a channel with more than 30 other co-channel users in the Chicago metropolitan area. Congestion is a constant problem. Although our agencies are fortunate enough to be able combine their funding together for a new radio system, we are unable to obtain any other radio channels to operate on.

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Immediate Commission action allocating portions of current UHF television spectrum between channel 60-69 for public safety use could begin to alleviate the problems that these agencies face. This was suggested in the digital television Docket 87-278. This block of spectrum would be ideal for public safety use as it is adjacent to frequencies currently used for mobile radio operations by federal, state and local agencies.

Tri-Com, the Cities of Geneva, St. Charles, and Batavia (Illinois) requests that the Commission take expeditious action to meet the spectrum needs of all public safety agencies nationwide.

Sincerely yours,


Jerry Bleck
Director Of Communications

WT - 96-8

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Elizabeth Fire Department

December 4, 1996

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Chairman Hundt
Federal Communications Commission
1919 MI STREET, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

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'APR 14 1997

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Re: Advanced Television System
Impact On Emergency Services
~~Docket No. 96-317~~
Further Notice No. 96-317

Dear Chairman Hundt,

The Elizabeth, NJ Fire Department, wishes to express it's strong support for FCC action to reallocate the current UHF television broadcast channels 60-69 and make a portion of that spectrum available for public safety use. We believe the first step in the process is the reallocation of UHF channels 60-69 as proposed by your staff in the above referenced digital television proceeding.

There is currently an urgent need in many parts of the country for additional public safety radio channels. We especially have an urgent need in this very congested New York / New Jersey Metropolitan Area. We have tried for several years to get another repeater pair allocation in the 450 MHz range and were unsuccessful. When the 500 MHz band became available, we immediately applied for and were granted two repeater pairs for our public safety fire service use.

The Public Safety Wireless Advisory Committee (PSWAC), co-sponsored by the FCC and the NTIA recently released it findings in a final report which found that public safety agencies need at least 2.5 MHz of additional spectrum right now for inter-operability, at least 25 MHz within the next 5 years and an additional 70 MHz within the next 15 years.

The spectrum within channels 60-69 is ideal for public safety use and is adjacent to the 800 MHz mobile radio frequencies currently in use in public safety. While we support the allocation of the additional spectrum of 800 MHz frequencies for public safety, we would also like to alert the FCC to problems with the current DTV channel planning as it effects local land mobile users of the 500 MHz shared TV channels 19 & 20 in the New Jersey area.

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Most of the local County's fire departments operate under the title 49 FCC Authorization in Band 460-512 MHz. Specifically, there are currently 5 municipal fire departments licensed to operate in the 500 MHz band in the County including the Elizabeth Fire Department. In addition the Union County Fire \mutual Aid system holds a license in the 450 MHz band and the Union County Office of Emergency Management holds a license in the 471 MHz. band. Approximately 20 channels in the band are currently in use by the 21 municipal fire and rescue services, mutual aid and OEM, to provide services to the 21 county municipalities which translates to 2,500 response personnel protecting 494,000 people and their property in an area of 102 square miles. The five municipalities that recently went to the 500 MHz band have spent approximately 3 million dollars of the taxpayer's money in order to better serve the needs of their customers. We have personally spent over three hundred thousand dollars to upgrade our radio equipment to handle the new frequencies.

The Commission's proposal to allow TV broadcast stations to operate on adjacent TV channels 18 and 21 in Secaucus and Vineland (NJ) would create a devastating effect on public safety through interference of our frequencies, jeopardizing our ability to deliver the services we are charged with, through law or charter. The proper distances from broadcast TV to our operating areas could not be met under this proposal as we are under 50 miles from Secaucus. It is my opinion that positioning of transmitters so close together will impact our fire and rescue operations and may jeopardize life and property.

We respectfully request that the Commission considers the impact on the citizens of Elizabeth (NJ) and on the public safety agencies which serves them and that the Commission acts immediately on this matter.

Very truly yours,



James W. Zebrowski
Superintendent
Elizabeth Fire Department
316 Irvington Avenue
Elizabeth, NJ 07208

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PREBLE COUNTY
9-1-1 ADVISORY BOARD
100 EAST MAIN ST., EATON, OHIO 45320 (513) 456-8121

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WT 96-8K

CO - CHAIRMEN
SHERIFF THOMAS A. HAYES
CHIEF JAMES P. DEARTH

9-1-1 COORDINATOR
PEGGY CRABTREE

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

October 11, 1996

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APR 24 1997

The Honorable Reed F. Hunt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 N Street N.C.
Washington D. C., 20554

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

Re: **MM Docket No. 87-268** Advanced Television Systems and their Impact upon Existing Television Broadcast Services

Dear Chairman Hunt:

Preble County 911 wishes to express its support for Federal Communications Commission action to reallocate the current UHF broadcast television channels 60-69, and make a portion of that spectrum available for public safety use. The first step in the process is reallocation of UHF Channels 60-69 as proposed in the above referenced digital television proceedings.

There is currently an urgent need in many parts of the country for additional public safety radio channels. The Public Safety Wireless Advisory Committee (PSWAC), cosponsored by the FCC and NTIA, recently released its "Final Report" which found that public safety agencies need at least 2.5 MHz of additional spectrum right now for interoperability, at least 25 MHz within (5) years, and an additional 70 MHz within the next fifteen (15) years.

Preble County 911 agrees with PSWAC findings. Only immediate FCC action in making available new spectrum can help to alleviate the problems faced by many public safety agencies around the nation.

The spectrum at issue is ideal for public safety use. The block of UHF channels between 60 and 69 is adjacent to the 800 MHz mobile radio frequencies heavily used by public safety agencies.

Preble County 911 urges the commission to act expeditiously and favorably in this matter.

Sincerely,



Peggy Crabtree, 911 Coordinator

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WT 96-86

PREBLE COUNTY
9-1-1 ADVISORY BOARD
100 EAST MAIN ST., EATON, OHIO 45320 (513) 456-8121

CO - CHAIRMEN
SHERIFF THOMAS A. HAYES
CHIEF JAMES P. DEARTH

9-1-1 COORDINATOR
PEGGY CRABTREE

October 11, 1996

The Honorable Reed F. Hunt, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street N.C.
Washington D.C., 20554

Re: WT Docket No. 96-86, The Development of Operational, Technical and Spectrum requirements for Meeting Federal, State and Local Public Safety Agency Communication Requirements Through the year 2010.

Dear Chairman Hunt:

Public safety agencies across the country are in desperate need of additional radio communications channels. The Public Safety Wireless Advisor Committee (PSWAC), jointly sponsored by the FCC and NTIA, recently released its "Final Report" which concludes that public safety agencies need at least 2.5 MHz of additional spectrum right now for interoperability, at least 25 MHz within five (5) years, and an additional 70 MHz in the next fifteen (15) years.

Preble County 911 submits this letter in strong support of the PSWAC findings and urges that the FCC take immediate action to allocate spectrum for safety use. Public safety agencies across the country face difficulty in addressing problems of confection, lack of interoperability, and the inability to implement new communications technologies. The problems are mainly caused by a lack of available radio channels.

Immediate commission action allocating portions of current UHF television spectrum between channels 60-69 for public safety use could begin to alleviate the problems these agencies face. This was suggested in the digital television Docket 87-278. This block of spectrum is ideal for public safety use as it is adjacent to frequencies currently used for mobile radio operations by federal, state and local agencies.

Preble County 911 requests that the commission take expeditious action to meet the spectrum needs of public safety agencies nationwide.

Sincerely



Peggy Crabtree, 911 Coordinator

9-1-1 *Sherman County Communications & Emergency Management*

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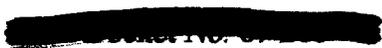
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APR 24 1997

The Honorable Reed F. Hundt
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20554

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

RE: Advanced Television Systems
and their Impact upon the
Existing Television Broadcast Services



Dear Chairman Hundt:

Sherman County Communications wishes to express its strong support for Federal Communications Commission action to reallocate the current UHF broadcast television channels 60-69, and make a portion of that spectrum available for public safety use. The first step in the process is reallocation of UHF channels 60-69 as proposed in the above referenced digital television proceeding.

There is currently an urgent need in many parts of the country for additional public safety radio channels. The Public Safety Wireless Advisory Committee ("PSWAC"), cosponsored by the FCC and NTIA, recently released its "Final Report" which found that public safety agencies need at least 2.5 MHz of additional spectrum right now for interoperability, at least 25 MHz within five (5) years, and an additional 70 MHz within the next fifteen (15) years.

Sherman County Communications agrees with the PSWAC findings. Only immediate FCC action in making available new spectrum can help to alleviate the problems faced by Sherman County and many other public safety agencies around the nation.

The spectrum at issue is ideal for public safety use. The block of UHF channels between 60 and 69 is adjacent to the 800 MHz mobile radio frequencies heavily used by public safety agencies.

Sherman County Communications urges the Commission to act expeditiously and favorably in this matter.

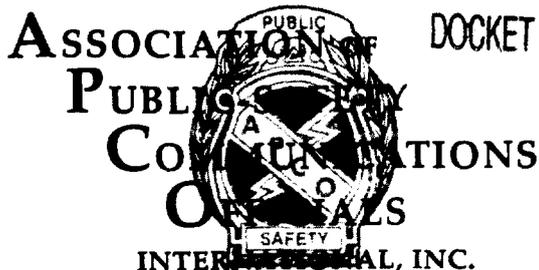
Sincerely,

Mary Messamore

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RESIDENT
MARILYN WARD

Orlando Police Department
106 S. Hughey Ave.
Orlando, FL 32801
407.246.2446
Fax: 407.246.2549
Voice Mailbox: 888.APCO-9-1-1 Ext.406



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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
JAMES R. RAND

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South Daytona, FL 32119-8437
904.322.2500 or 888.APCO-9-1-1 Ext. 222
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WT 96-86

February 25, 1997

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APR 24 1997

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

The Honorable Reed Hundt
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: WT Docket 96-86

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The Nevada Department of Transportation ("Nevada DOT") has filed Reply Comments in the above-referenced proceeding addressing several issues, including the relative benefits of the Project 25 standard for public safety digital radio equipment. Most of the issues raised by Nevada DOT have been fully addressed by APCO and other parties in this proceeding. However, there is one point which does require a brief response to ensure that the record in this proceeding is correct.

Nevada DOT appears to misunderstand who constitutes Project 25, and how its decisions are made. Nevada DOT suggests that standards should not be selected by "associations such as APCO, which are comprised mainly of dispatchers and non-technical managers." First, that characterization of APCO is incomplete, as a substantial number of APCO members are engineers and technicians. Second, and more importantly, the standard was not selected by APCO. Rather it was selected by the Project 25 Steering Committee, which consists of technically trained individuals representing each of the sponsoring entities, including APCO, the National Association of State Telecommunications Directors ("NASTD") and agencies of the Federal Government. Furthermore, the Project 25 standards were not selected in a vacuum. The Telecommunications Industry Association ("TIA") has been a key player in the Project 25 process, and all of the Project 25 standards were based on TIA committee recommendations.

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The Honorable Reed Hundt
February 25, 1997
Page Two

Please contact me or our counsel in Washington, Robert Gurs, at (202) 457-7329,
should you have any questions regarding this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Marilyn Ward".

Marilyn Ward, President

cc: All Commissioners
Ms. Michele Farquhar, FCC WTB
Director, Nevada Department of Transportation