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November 17, 2015

Tom Wheeler, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Written *Ex Parte* Presentation: *Terrestrial Use of the 2473-2495 MHz Band for Low-Power Mobile Broadband Networks* – IB Docket No. 13-213

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

I write to urge the FCC to complete the process on rules proposed more than two years ago in the referenced proceeding that, if approved, would permit Globalstar, a company based in Louisiana, to offer terrestrial mobile broadband services over its licensed satellite spectrum and adjacent unlicensed spectrum.

We share a common goal in recognizing the need to free up spectrum to power the mobile networks of the future and meet the growing demands of consumers. Making additional spectrum available will encourage innovative and differentiated wireless services, and thus drive the vigorously competitive communications industry.

I have followed this proceeding, from Globalstar's 2012 petition for rulemaking to the demonstrations and its deployments of Globalstar's Terrestrial Low Power Service at the Commission in March, in Chicago this summer, and at the Washington School for Girls in the District of Columbia. Globalstar and its nationally recognized team of engineers have shown repeatedly that the new broadband service will generate tremendous consumer benefits by increasing Wi-Fi capacity and relieving network congestion immediately.

While the FCC may never be able to avoid all objections in this matter, I urge you to quickly complete this proceeding. If the clear science shows the benefits of their service while also avoiding interference concerns, there should be no reason that this matter is delayed any longer.

Thank you for your work, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

David Vitter
U.S. Senator

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

February 2, 2016

The Honorable David Vitter
United States Senate
516 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Vitter:

Thank you for your letter supporting Globalstar's petition seeking rule changes that would permit it to deploy terrestrial broadband services in the 2.4 GHz band. Your views are very important and will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

Globalstar's petition raises complex technical questions and the record in this proceeding demonstrates significant concerns on the part of other in-band and adjacent band spectrum users and licensees over potential interference from Globalstar's proposed deployment. These users and licensees include stakeholders with interests in WiFi, Bluetooth, Broadcast Auxiliary Service, Educational Broadband Service and Broadband Radio Service. Commenters in the proceeding have raised numerous issues, including the elimination of adequate spectral separation between Globalstar's proposed terrestrial low power network and WiFi channel 11, overlap with Bluetooth operations, and interference protection to broadcast auxiliary and broadband radio services.

The Commission has been carefully considering the Globalstar proposal and examining the still growing record in the proceeding. I and the Commission staff have encouraged the interested parties to work together and share information to resolve interference concerns, however, strong disagreements about the potential for detrimental impact on current licensed and unlicensed services persist.

The Commission has worked diligently to better understand and resolve these issues and has been engaging closely with Globalstar. In March 2015, Globalstar and several interested parties participated in a demonstration of the proposed Globalstar system at the FCC's Technology Experience Center. In September 2015, Globalstar reported the results of tests conducted over the summer which the Commission has reviewed. In December 2015, my wireless advisor, Commissioner Clyburn, and staff from Commissioner Rosenworcel's office visited The Washington School for Girls to see Globalstar's technology in use. Finally, earlier this month, my office, the Commission's Office of Engineering and Technology, and International Bureau met with Globalstar to inquire into its proposed deployment plan and network operating system.

Commission staff continues to meet with Globalstar and potentially affected parties to understand and address potential interference and technical issues raised. I appreciate your interest in this matter. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

Tom Wheeler