



SAN JUAN COUNTY COMMISSION

Phil Lyman - Chairman
Rebecca M. Benally - Vice-Chairman
Bruce B. Adams - Commissioner
Kelly Pehrson - Administrator

May 17, 2016

Jon Wilkins, Chief
Wireless Telecommunications Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
445 - 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554
E-mail: jon.wilkins@fcc.gov

Re: *SAL Spectrum, LLC
Petition for Waiver*

Dear Mr. Wilkins:

As the Chairman of the San Juan County, Utah Board of Commissioners, I write in support of the petition submitted by Atlantic Tele-Network, Inc. (ATN) and its subsidiary SAL Spectrum, LLC (SAL) seeking a waiver to qualify for the rural service provider bidding credit in the upcoming broadcast incentive auction.

Considering that the bidding credit is intended to enhance the deployment of competitive and innovative service offerings to consumers in rural areas, ATN/SAL should be afforded the benefit of this bidding credit. In fact, with its proven record of deployment to San Juan County, Utah ("our market") – an area where no other carrier was willing to serve – ATN/SAL is the type of a company that should benefit from the bidding credit.

ATN, though its affiliate Commnet Wireless was the first company to deploy cellular communications in our market. As a result several thousand San Juan County residents have their only access to communications for the purposes of seeking employment opportunity and emergency services.

Because of ATN's commitment to serve our market, our local residents have been given the chance to keep pace with the rest of the country. ATN's commitment to serve our market has improved the quality of life for countless individuals and is essential to the economic development of our community. However, to fully take advantage of the opportunities offered in an increasingly wireless world, we encourage you to give ATN the opportunity to acquire more spectrum on fair terms. Denying ATN/SAL access to the rural bidding credit in the 600 MHz auction would not only tie their hands in the auction but it would also deny consumers in rural areas the benefits we have seen in our market.

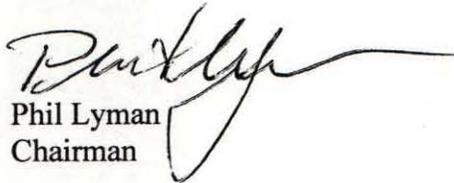
We are grateful for the connectivity that Commnet Wireless has provided to us, and Americans living in rural and underserved parts of the country stand to benefit as we have from

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the efforts of ATN/SAL. Therefore, it would be a serious mistake for the Commission to deprive citizens in rural America of these same opportunities by denying the waiver request and hindering ATN/SAL's ability to compete in the incentive auction.

For these reasons, the duly elected San Juan County Board of Commissioners encourages the Commission's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau to grant the waiver and extend the rural service provider bidding credit to ATN/SAL.

Sincerely,



Phil Lyman
Chairman

cc: Chairman Tom Wheeler, tom.wheeler@fcc.gov
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn, mignon.clyburn@fcc.gov
Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel, jessica.rosenworcel@fcc.gov
Commissioner Ajit Pai, ajit.pai@fcc.gov
Commissioner Michael O'Rielly, mike.o'rielly@fcc.gov