

**OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

Post Office Box 11706, Rock Hill, South Carolina 29731-1706
Tel: (803) 329-7270 • Fax: (803) 324-7420

RECEIVED**OCT 22 1999****FCC MAIL ROOM**

October 19, 1999

The Honorable William E. Kennard, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
The Portals
445 Twelfth Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Ref: Docket No. 99-168

Dear Sir,

The Public Safety Community cannot compete with the private sector for communications. To attempt this would be detrimental to the taxpayer. Our urgent request is for the protection of frequencies for public safety usage.

There is a need for interference protection from dissimilar technology in the new 700 MHz bands immediately adjacent to the new public safety spectrum (764-776 MHz and 794-806 MHz). The proximity of adjacent commercial (CMRS) carriers is currently creating damaging interference to public safety communications in the 800 MHz band. There is no frequency coordination between CMRS, broadcasters and public safety coordinators. Placement of such dissimilar services, including new low power television broadcast services, immediately adjacent to the new 700 MHz public safety band, will compromise our critical communications and greatly reduce the usability of spectrum for our agency.

Similar technology in the adjacent bands will help assure interference-free communications for public safety agencies like ours. It creates economies of scale for manufacturers, resulting in lower prices and broader choices for our agency. It will facilitate voluntary interoperability between our agency and public service providers such as utilities, railroads, pipelines, etc., thereby improving overall response to our citizens during disasters and emergencies.

No. of Copies rec'd
List ABCDE

Copy

RECEIVED

OCT 22 1999

FRR NINE ROOM

October 19, 1999
The Honorable William E. Kennard, Chairman
Page 2

York County, like others, is growing and to meet the present and future needs of our citizens requires that we have a portion of the spectrum available for public safety.

Sincerely,



Cotton Howell
Director

CH:aj

Copy to : Chief Thomas J. Sugrue
Ms. Magalie Roman Salas

ORIGINAL



Talladega County
Emergency Management Agency EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

1 Court Square, Basement
P.O. Box 43
Talladega, AL 35161

GRIFFIN A HOLCOMB, JR.
EMA DIRECTOR

RECEIVED
OCT 22 1999
FEDERAL ROOM
CHAIRMAN, KELVIN CUNNINGHAM
TALLADEGA COUNTY COMMISSION

October 18, 1999

Reference: WT Docket Number 99-168

The Honorable William E. Kennard, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
The Portals
445 Twelfth Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear The Honorable William E. Kennard:

Your office is about to make a decision that could greatly hamper Public Safety Communications in the 800 MHz band. I am sure you are aware that the 36 MHz you are about to auction are immediately adjacent to Public Safety Bands. If a sufficient buffer zone is not included, it could cause a dangerous situation.

As the EMA Director for Talladega County, I am very concerned that TV Broadcast Services will further compromise critical communications to the approximate 74,000 Talladega County residents. I propose and hope you will consider adding a buffer zone immediately adjacent to each edge of Public Service allocations. This will provide user protection from potential interference caused by Commercial Services allowed in this band.

Any assistance and relief in this matter would be greatly appreciated.

Respectfully,

Griffin A Holcomb, Jr
EMA Director

tcema/npb

No. of Copies rec'd 1 copy
List ABCDE

October 18, 1999

cc: Chief Thomas J. Sugrue
Wireless Radio Bureau
The Portals
445 Twelfth Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Office of the Secretary
Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
TW-A325
445 Twelfth Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554