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December 13, 1999

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
The Portals, TW-A325
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Re: WT Docket No. 96-86; WTB-2

Dear Ms. Salas:

This letter is written on behalf of Motorola, Inc. (Motorola). On Friday, December 10, 1999, Wayne Leland, Corporate Vice President and Director, Commercial, Governmental, Industrial Systems Solutions, Motorola; Stu Overby, Director, Spectrum and Standards Strategy, Motorola; Rich Barth, Vice President and Director, Telecommunications Strategy and Regulation, Motorola; and, Jeanine Poltronieri, Director, Telecommunications Strategy and Regulation, Motorola, met with Kathleen O'Brien Ham, Deputy Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau; D'Wana Terry, Chief, Public Safety and Private Wireless Division (PSPWD); Ramona Melson, Deputy Chief for Legal, PSPWD; Jeannie Kowalski, Deputy Chief for Public Safety, PSPWD; and Mark Rubin, Legal Advisor, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau. The parties discussed PSPWD's priorities for the upcoming year. Motorola shared its view that public safety and private wireless services are of utmost importance to the nation. Motorola also commended the Division on its work at reducing the backlog of matters pending at the Commission.

Motorola also discussed recent developments in Project 25, a voluntary standards effort that is supported by numerous North American city, county, state and federal public safety agencies. While there has been wide adoption of Frequency Division Multiple Access (FDMA) technology by the North American user community for Phase I and Phase II of Project 25, some of the North American public safety user community have recently expressed interest in considering a Time Division Multiple Access (TDMA) technology alternative. The Project 25 Steering Committee announced that it has accepted technology proposals from Ericsson Land Mobile Systems and the European Telecommunications Standards Institutes (ETSI) Terrestrial Trunked Radio (TETRA) Memorandum of Understanding group. These proposals are a starting point for the development of TDMA Project 25 standards. Acceptance of both proposals by the Project 25 Steering Committee was based on agreement by the proposers to comply with the requirement that they include complete compliance with the Project's Phase I Common-Air-Interface (CAI) and Vocoder standards. This will allow for backward

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compatibility to Project 25 Phase I. Motorola believes that these proposals will allow for interoperability between the two types of technologies that compete for the worldwide public safety two-way radio communications marketplace, FDMA and TDMA.

Attached to this letter is a copy of the press release distributed by the Association of Public Safety Communications Officials International regarding the Project 25 developments, which was provided to FCC staff at the meeting. Please contact Jeanine Poltronieri at (202) 371-6896 regarding any questions concerning this matter.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jeanine Poltronieri
Director, Telecommunications
Strategy and Regulation
Motorola, Inc.

Attachment

Cc:

Kathleen O'Brien Ham, Deputy Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau;
D'Wana Terry, Chief, PSPWD, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau;
Ramona Melson, Deputy Chief, PSPWD, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau
Jeannie Kowalski, Deputy Chief, PSPWD, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau;
Mark Rubin, Legal Advisor, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau;
Kathy M.H. Wallman, Chair, National Coordination Committee;
Michael Wilhelm, Designated Federal Officer, National Coordination Committee

APCO International

Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials International, Inc.

For IMMEDIATE Release

Contact: Craig Jorgensen
Project 25 Director
(801) 583-1099

Project 25 Committee Approves Ericsson, TETRA Proposals

SOUTH DAYTONA, Fla. (Nov. 19, 1999) - The Project 25 Steering Committee announced today it has accepted technology proposals from Ericsson Land Mobile Systems Inc. and the European Telecommunications Standards Institute's (ETSI's) Terrestrial Trunked Radio (TETRA) Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) Group.

The Ericsson proposal will provide for the eventual creation of a two-slot TDMA Project 25 (P25) standard while TETRA's proposal will allow for the creation of a four-slot TDMA Project 25 standard. Acceptance of both proposals was based on their agreement to comply with the Project 25 Steering Committee's requirement that they include complete compliance with the Project's Phase I Common-Air-Interface (CAI) and Vocoder standards

Project 25 Director Craig Jorgensen said, "Brian Oliver, TETRA's Project Manager, and I began our discussion on how to improve interoperability between the world's two most accepted public safety, two-way radio standards in 1996. Today's acceptance of a TETRA proposal is just the tip of the iceberg of what we and our partners and peers in the European Union expect in the future."

Robert Schlieman, P25 Steering Committee member from the State of New York, said, "The acceptance of the TETRA and Ericsson proposals will provide my state two more options in our quest to design and construct a digital public safety network that will be capable of meeting our current and future needs."

The committee's acceptance of the Ericsson proposal represents nearly six years of discussion between Ericsson Land Mobile Inc. and the Project 25 Steering Committee.

"I am delighted that Ericsson and the Project 25 Steering Committee have reached an understanding of what the public safety community needs in a Project 25-compliant radio," said Glen Nash, first vice president of the Association of Public-Safety Officials (APCO) International.

APCO President Joe Hanna said, "As the past president of the Ericsson User Group and president of APCO, I am very pleased to see Ericsson has made an acceptable proposal to the Project 25 Steering Committee. Although Ericsson has been a contributor to the process from its inception, this action represents a tremendous step forward for all of us in the public safety community."

"While the acceptance of these two proposals by the Project 25 Steering Committee represents a significant step in the Project 25 standards process, it does not represent the final acceptance of a standard," said

Don Pfohl, Steering Committee member from Mesa, Ariz. "To achieve that objective, we still must receive acceptance and approval of the Telecommunications Industry Association (TIA) and the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). It's estimated that process could take from two to three years."

Project 25 is a voluntary standards effort that is supported by the Federal Law Enforcement Wireless Users Group (FLEWUG), the National Telecommunications System (NCS), the Department of Defense's National Security Agency (NSA), APCO, the National Association of State Telecommunications Directors (NASTD), and numerous other city, county, state and federal agencies.

APCO is the nation's oldest and largest public safety communications organization. Its 13,000 members consist of personnel who provide police, fire and emergency medical services, as well as forestry, military, and government personnel who manage and operate state and local government public safety facilities throughout the world.