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July 6, 2000

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED
JUL 6 2000
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Re: WT Docket 96-86

Dear Ms. Salas:

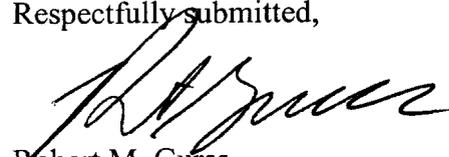
This is to inform the Commission that on July 5, 2000, the undersigned counsel for the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials-International, Inc. ("APCO") had an extended telephone conversation with Adam Krinsky of Commissioner Tristani's staff to discuss APCO's position regarding the Public Safety National Coordination Committee (NCC) recommendations for a digital standard in the 700 MHz Public Safety Interoperability channels. The undersigned indicated APCO's strong support for the NCC recommendations, and urged that the NCC's proposed 12.5 kHz interoperability standard was the only approach that would allow near-term public safety utilization of the 700 MHz band without sacrificing interoperability. The undersigned and Mr. Krinsky also discussed the possibility of the FCC adopting the 12.5 kHz standard with either a migration path to future 6.25 kHz radio equipment or a commitment to adopt such a migration path after further consideration and proceedings. The undersigned indicated that such an approach might be acceptable to the public safety community, provided that it (a) results in a quick adoption of the 12.5 kHz standard, (b) does not discourage the development, purchase, or implementation of 12.5 kHz equipment, (c) ensures continuous interoperability between 12.5 kHz radios and 6.25 kHz capable radios pursuant to a Commission recognized interoperability standard, and (d) recognizes that there remain substantial technical issues regarding the selection of an appropriate standard for 6.25 kHz operations on the interoperability channels, and that those issues may never be overcome.

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Please contact the undersigned if the Commission has any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Gurss", written in a cursive style.

Robert M. Gurss
Counsel for APCO

cc: Adam Krinsky, Esq.