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January 5, 2001

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

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JAN - 5 2001

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Re: WT Docket 96-86

Dear Ms. Salas:

On behalf of the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials-International, Inc. ("APCO"), and pursuant to Section 1.1204(a)(10)(iv) of the Commission's rules, this is to inform the Commission that Mr. Bryan Tramont, Legal Advisor to Commissioner Harold Furghtgott-Roth, contacted the undersigned today to request clarification regarding APCO's position regarding the migration to 6.25 kHz equipment in the General Use channels of the 700 MHz Public Safety Band. I noted to Mr. Tramont that it would be consistent with APCO's stated positions for the Commission to require that after 2006, type-acceptance for new equipment in the band would be limited to equipment with the capability to provide one voice channel per 6.25 kHz. I reiterated that such 6.25 kHz capable equipment must still provide 12.5 kHz capability for operation on the Interoperability channels pursuant to the Project 25 Phase I standard. Furthermore, regardless of whether the 6.25 kHz requirement is in the form of a type-acceptance rule or a restriction on manufacture and importation, manufacturers must still have the ability beyond 2006 to produce and market radios with 12.5 kHz capability for operation on General Use channels (either as previously type-accepted radios without 6.25 kHz capability or, in the event of a manufacturing/importation rule, as radios with both 6.25 and 12.5 kHz capability). This is necessary to accommodate those public safety agencies that begin construction and or operation prior to 2006 with 12.5 kHz equipment, but require additional 12.5 kHz equipment thereafter to complete construction and unit loading, or to expand capacity as needed.

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Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
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Please contact the undersigned should the Commission have any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Gurss', written over a horizontal line.

Robert M. Gurss
Counsel for APCO

cc: Bryan Tramont, Esq. (via fax)