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FCC MAIL ROOM February 14, 2001

To: The Federal Communications Commission

From: Karen Lindberg  
 N9640 Winnebago Park  
 Fond du Lac, Wisconsin 54935

Subject: In the Matter of Reallocation of the 216-217 MHz

ET Docket  
00-221

I am writing to express my grave concern over the FCC's consideration of auctioning off the 216-217 MHz frequency band, the spectrum currently allocated for the use of assistive listening devices. I am severely hard of hearing and use FM assistive listening systems daily to stay involved with the hearing world.

I began to lose my hearing at the age of 30 and by the time I was 40, I was severely hard of hearing and becoming increasingly isolated and depressed. FM saved my life! I carry two FM systems with me at all times, in case one fails. I use these systems for meetings, for restaurants, in the car, in church, at public speaking events, in classroom settings, and at social gatherings.

Because of FM I was able to complete a master's degree and am now establishing my own training business in hearing loss management. Just last week I purchased over \$2,000 worth of new FM equipment for use by hard of hearing participants in the workshops I facilitate. Time after time in my trainings I have watched people's faces light up when they first experience the clarity FM provides in situations which would otherwise be inaccessible.

I beg of you to reconsider this matter. FM is as vital to me as a wheelchair is to someone with a severe mobility disability. If it is no longer available, or rendered useless because of interference problems, hard of hearing people in this country will suffer a severe blow.

Sincerely,

Karen Lindberg

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