

Before The
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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In The Matter Of)
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)
Revision of the Commission's)
Rules to Ensure Compatibility with)
Enhanced 911 Emergency Calling Systems)
_____)

CC Docket No. 94-102

**REPLY COMMENTS OF QUALCOMM INCORPORATED IN SUPPORT OF
REQUEST OF ALLTEL COMMUNICATIONS, INC. FOR WAIVER**

QUALCOMM Incorporated ("QUALCOMM") hereby replies in support of the request of ALLTEL Communications, Inc. ("ALLTEL") for waiver of a limited waiver of some of the deployment deadlines for Phase II E9-1-1 service so that it can deploy an assisted GPS solution on a schedule based upon the availability of switch and cell software releases from its infrastructure vendors and of compliant handsets from its handset vendors. In particular, QUALCOMM responds herein to the comments filed by APCO, NENA, and NASNA regarding ALLTEL's waiver request.

**I. ALLTEL Has Chosen a Technology Which Will Meet
the Commission's Accuracy Rules for Handset Solutions**

The APCO/NENA/NASNA Comments fail even to mention that ALLTEL, unlike carriers such as AT&T and Cingular, has not sought any waiver of the Commission's accuracy rules. This omission is remarkable. ALLTEL, a major national wireless carrier, is committed to implementing a location technology which will produce the highest levels of accuracy possible, a solution which will give the police and other public safety officials the degree of accuracy they can use to save lives. That has been the goal of the Commission and the public safety community for many years.

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It is thus surprising, unfair, and downright wrong that APCO, NENA, and NASNA fault ALLTEL throughout their Comments and ask the Commission not to grant ALLTEL's waiver request on the basis of the record as it now stands. See APCO/NENA/NASNA Comments at Pg. 6. ALLTEL deserves praise, not criticism, from the public safety community for choosing a technology that complies with, and indeed exceeds, the Commission's accuracy rules for handset solutions, rules which are significantly more stringent than those for network solutions, and for committing to the first widespread deployment of this technology in advance of the Commission's October 1, 2001 deadline.

It is equally unfair for APCO, NENA, and NASNA to fault ALLTEL for its desire to sell phones with QUALCOMM's MSM5100 chipset, which will incorporate QUALCOMM's position location technology and the capability to provide 3G services at data rates of 307 kbps. APCO/NENA/NASNA Comments at 2. As ALLTEL deploys the assisted GPS technology, ALLTEL will also be deploying CDMA2000 1x, the 3G technology which will enable subscribers using phones containing the MSM5100 chipset to achieve the foregoing data rates for 3G services. This 3G technology will also double the voice capacity of ALLTEL's network and will substantially improve its network's coverage, thereby reducing the number of dropped calls, and will extend the battery life of the phones marketed to ALLTEL subscribers. These enhancements will apply perforce to 911 calls, thereby substantially improving 911 service over ALLTEL's network. In short, ALLTEL has demonstrated both its commitment to implementing the most accurate position location technology while at the same time deploying a 3G solution

which will enable it to provide better service to its customers. There is certainly no basis to fault or chastise ALLTEL.¹

II. There Is No Valid Reason to Deny the ALLTEL Waiver Request

There is no valid reason to deny the ALLTEL waiver request. APCO, NENA, and NASNA ask in their Comments for additional information about the request, but none of their requests for additional information are a sufficient basis to deny the waiver request. See APCO/NENA/NASNA Comments at Pg. 3. ALLTEL explained in detail in its waiver requests the need for a waiver due to the delivery schedules of switch and handset vendors. The APCO/NENA/NASNA Comments do not undermine or contradict the showing made by ALLTEL.

Motorola's Comments establish that if ALLTEL selects a SignalSoft Mobile Positioning Center ("MPC") and a SnapTrack Position Determining Entity ("PDE"), the date for deployment with general availability of a complete release of switch software will be considerably sooner than if ALLTEL proceeds with a Lucent PDE and MPC. Motorola Comments at Pg. 4. In the

¹By contrast, the statement in AT&T's Comments that "there is a direct relationship between accuracy performance, channel width, and the air interface in question, *i.e.*, more accurate results can be obtained on a CDMA system with 1,200 kilohertz channels than on systems using narrower channels like TDMA (20 kilohertz)" is misleading. AT&T Comments at Pg. 1. Higher bandwidth (channel size) has nothing to do with the accuracy of assisted GPS; AT&T could deploy assisted GPS using technology developed by QUALCOMM and achieve results which would be much more accurate than produced by MNLS. Higher bandwidth can produce greater resolution, but not greater accuracy. The testing by QUALCOMM and its SnapTrack subsidiary has proven that assisted GPS works on the PDC air interface at levels of accuracy which meet the FCC's mandate and far exceed the levels produced by MNLS, even though PDC, like TDMA, has narrow channels. Ironically, this testing, and the later deployment of assisted GPS on PDC, occurred over the PDC cellular system operated by DoCoMo, AT&T's major equity investor and strategic partner. The Commission should reject AT&T's request for a waiver of the accuracy rules to deploy deficient technologies rather than assisted GPS or some other compliant technology, as opposed to ALLTEL which is complying with the accuracy rules.

latter event, Motorola would have to undertake “significant additional software development work,” which could be avoided if ALLTEL selects a SnapTrack PDE and a SignalSoft MPC. Id. The SnapTrack PDE and SignalSoft MPC will work well over ALLTEL’s network, and the accelerated schedule set forth in Motorola’s Comments if ALLTEL deploys them would further the Commission’s goal of speeding the deployment of Phase II E911 service.

APCO, NENA, and NASNA ask that ALLTEL explain why it is not proposing an interim solution (APCO/NENA/NASNA Comments at Pg. 3), but the Commission’s rules do not require any such interim solution, and since any such solution would have accuracy that would be substantially inferior to that produced by the assisted GPS solution chosen by ALLTEL, it is apparent that the public would benefit more if ALLTEL devoted its resources to working with its vendors to accomplish the deployment of the assisted GPS solution as quickly as possible. Indeed, it is apparent that at this late date, ALLTEL will have assisted GPS deployed throughout its network well before any so-called interim solution could be developed, tested, and deployed. ALLTEL has selected the Phase II solution with the greatest accuracy possible and has set forth a clear plan for its deployment. The Commission should grant ALLTEL’s waiver request so that ALLTEL can bring this life-saving technology to its subscribers as quickly as possible.

III. Conclusion

Wherefore, for the foregoing reasons, QUALCOMM respectfully requests that the Commission grant the request for a waiver filed by ALLTEL.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

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Dated: September 6, 2001

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Dean R. Brenner, do hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing "Reply Comments of QUALCOMM Incorporated in Support of Request of ALLTEL Communications, Inc. for Waiver" was served by mail this 6th day of September 2001 to:

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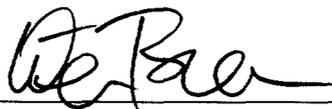
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