

Region 20 - 821MHz Regional Planning Committee

District of Columbia, State of Maryland and Northern Virginia

Alan T. Kealey, Chairman
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September 6, 2001

Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 12th Street, SW
Room TW-204B
Washington, DC 20554

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RE: NPS PAC 821 MHz Region 20, FCC GN. Docket No. 90-7
Response to Comments Filed to the Region 20 Plan Window 3a Amendment

Dear FCC Staff:

This letter is Region 20's reply to comments filed on August 2, 2001, on behalf of James H. Borland opposing the quantity of NPS PAC channels assigned to Fauquier County, Virginia as part of Region 20's plan amendment for Window 3a.

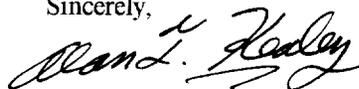
The participants of Region 20 are volunteers who give many long hours and take their work on the Regional Committee very seriously. We are interested in advancing public safety communications throughout the Region for all eligibles. As such, Region 20 does not have the resources to conduct a detailed inventory of radios, police officers, firemen on duty and any other radio users of the agencies making application for frequencies. If an application seems reasonable to the committee's collective experience, it is accepted at face value.

Fauquier County's *Traffic Loading Study* submitted with their application for frequencies appears reasonable. Based on the weighted unit count as per the Region 20 Plan, Fauquier County demonstrated the loading to support ten (10) channels. However, because of existing adjacent and co-channel frequencies in-place, Region 20 was only able to coordinate six (6) channels in the Fauquier County, area. Not the ten (10) channels requested and supported by their *Traffic Loading Study*.

Region 20 has to make frequency assignments before the Amended Region 20 Plan is approved by the FCC. These assignments are what the FCC is seeking comments on, to approve or disapprove. The frequency assignment letter sent by Region 20 to each applicant who was assigned channels clearly states that "... these assignments will not become final until approved by the FCC as amended to the Region 20 plan." In addition, the frequency table supplied to each applicant included the footnote "Pending FCC Approval." In no way is the Region 20 committee attempting to shortchange the public trust or FCC procedures.

Region 20 believes that Fauquier County's application, its review and the subsequent channel assignment to Fauquier County has been a fair and just process. Region 20 recommends that the Commission adopt the Region 20 channel assignment for Fauquier County. Based upon the Region 20 determination that the applicant sufficiently justified its channel needs in accordance with the Region 20 Plan as noted above.

Sincerely,



Alan T. Kealey, Chairman
Region 20 - 821 MHz

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