

I applaud and support the FCC's original decision to open the 3650-3700 Mhz band for unlicensed operation. I also support the decision for contention-based equipment operation in this band.

My partner and I have been operating a WISP for four years in the rural thumb area of Michigan using unlicensed spectrum. This service has provided wireless broadband access to business and residential areas unserved by cable and DSL. Some of these areas are where the incumbent providers won't even cross the street. In this time, we have seen the competition for the current unlicensed spectrum increase dramatically from all manner of devices. This new spectrum will allow us to increase the quality of our services and make it less prone to interruption from outside sources. Contention-based operation will ensure equipment that 'plays fair' in the band, making for efficient use of a valuable resource.

The FCC's decision to provide additional spectrum for these services shows great responsiveness to this new and nimble industry and does not need to be reopened for reconsideration. I oppose any reconsideration of your previous decision.

In closing, I urge the FCC to keep the band open. This will aid WISP's as we seek to close the digital divide in Michigan, as well as other's throughout this country.

Kerry Penland
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