

I believe we have a unique opportunity to expand the communications infrastructure in the United States. As the recent Katrina disaster has clearly demonstrated the current telecommunications network is woefully inadequate lacking any form of redundancy. It is imperative that create as many viable alternative forms of communications as is practical as to ensure stability in case of natural or man made disasters. This is no longer a simple matter of spreading Internet access to rural locations or increasing competition in this industry for the benefit of the American consumer it is now a matter of utmost national security.

It is critical to the economic survival of this country that we move forward delivering next generation communications services to ensure we maintain our ability to compete with many other industrialized countries. To that end we must look at the overall value of a finite resource (spectrum) and I urge the FCC to consider what provides the most value for a limited resource not simply in terms of what returns the most dollars but rather what will have the most benefit for our country.

Specifically, I would propose a generous portion be set aside for use solely for unlicensed communications. This band would closely follow Part-15 regulations but would not be open to non-communications devices. I would further ask that the FCC set EIRP limits at a significantly higher level than has been traditionally allowed under Part-15 so as to allow substantially longer connection ranges.

Thank you for your consideration.