

MOBILE SATELLITE SERVICES

AND THE 2 GHz SPECTRUM

BACKGROUND INFORMATION & LETTERS OF SUPPORT

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TerreStar Networks, Inc. Background and Letters of Support

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Fact Sheet: TerreStar, Mobile Satellite Services (MSS) and the 2 GHz Spectrum

Background

At the 1995 World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-95), spectrum was formally allocated to a new technology called Mobile Satellite Services, or MSS. This spectrum, in the “S-band,” made it possible for a new sector of the communications market to develop, and in 2000 the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) adopted rules for the spectrum and decided that it would be distributed *pro rata* among the licensees. In 2001, eight licensees were granted MSS spectrum, but over the next four years several of these companies lost their licenses after failing to meet their FCC milestones. By 2005, only five of the original S-band licensees remained.

Recently, Iridium LLC, the Boeing Company and Celsat America, Inc. surrendered their MSS spectrum licenses, leaving 40 MHz in the 2 GHz spectrum available for redistribution. The FCC is in the process of deciding whether to redistribute the remaining bandwidth between TerreStar and ICO – the two original licensees who have met all the milestones and requirements; to redistribute the remaining MSS spectrum to new companies seeking entry into the market; or to allocate the spectrum to another service, such as traditional cellular.

TerreStar and ICO are seeking an FCC decision to redistribute the remaining spectrum equally between them.

About Mobile Satellite Services (MSS)/Ancillary Terrestrial Component (ATC)

In order to use its allocation of MSS spectrum to bring reliable, high-quality and interoperable mobile communications services to key consumers, TerreStar has developed an integrated MSS/ATC communications system.

MSS is a satellite system that sends signals to portable receivers, which can be placed on vehicles or inside small handsets, similar to today’s cell phones. ATCs are tower-mounted antennas, which improve satellite phone service in areas where reception is blocked by terrain or buildings. Unlike traditional cellular or satellite systems, an integrated MSS/ATC system will allow users to connect reliably from any location, no matter how remote or isolated. Because satellites are not subject to ground conditions, they are not as susceptible to disruption as radios and cell towers in times of disaster – so an integrated system is an added insurance policy in the event of a communications failure.

The FCC and MSS Spectrum Allocation

It is essential that the U.S. have a unified vision to ensure reliable communications in times of emergency and for homeland security purposes, as well as for all Americans, wherever they live. MSS/ATC is the technology



that integrates our communications networks and provides instant, seamless mobile communications services – but it must have enough spectrum to function properly.

The FCC is currently considering several options for distributing the 40 MHz of spectrum that recently became available:

1. Allocate the spectrum equally to the two remaining licensees, TerreStar and ICO;
2. Divide the spectrum between TerreStar, ICO and Inmarsat, a recent applicant; or
3. Reallocate the spectrum to another service.

It is crucial that the FCC go with option 1, thereby granting sufficient bandwidth to allow MSS to satisfy America's growing communications needs.

TerreStar and "2 x 10" Capability

By dividing the available 40 MHz equally between TerreStar and ICO, the FCC will make "2 x 10" capability – 10 MHz of uplink capacity and 10 MHz of downlink capacity – possible.

"2 x 10" allows enough bandwidth to guarantee robust voice and data services for first responders, underserved areas and the mobile communications consumer. Because only 40 MHz of spectrum are currently available, and since "2 x 10" is the minimum required to supply adequate service, only two companies may be granted licenses. As the only companies that have demonstrated a commitment to providing MSS, TerreStar and ICO should share the 40 MHz allocation equally.

Who is TerreStar?

TerreStar Networks Inc. is an emerging provider of advanced mobile satellite services in North America. They are building and plan to operate an innovative and spectrum-efficient spot beam satellite in the 2 GHz frequency band, which will allow TerreStar to offer a diverse mix of high-bandwidth services including voice, circuit-switched and packet-switched data, fax and paging to subscribers utilizing mobile receivers, including handheld devices. TerreStar's integrated MSS/ATC network will effectively end the possibility of "dead zone" cell phone coverage by transitioning seamlessly between satellite and terrestrial resources. The MSS/ATC service and equipment will be priced comparably to today's cell phone service.

TerreStar is the first-to-market company for MSS/ATC technology: its satellite, TerreStar-1, is under construction now and will be deployed in 2008. When it is launched, TerreStar-1 will be the world's most powerful commercial mobile communications satellite, capable of providing coverage for the United States, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and Canada.

TerreStar already has made substantial investments, has met all FCC milestones, and is committed to deploying MSS/ATC systems that will fill the communications needs that, after Hurricane Katrina, are now so clear.



Benefits for Key Communications Consumers

After Katrina and the failure of communications systems in the affected areas, one thing is obvious: America must have sufficient and reliable communications available in times of crisis in order to save lives. MSS is part of the solution – it provides communications that are fully survivable during even the worst disasters. This service will dramatically improve reliability and quality of coverage for first responders and law enforcement and for underserved and rural communities.

First responders and law enforcement officials are in desperate need of reliable communications systems. The FCC has an opportunity to allocate the remaining MSS spectrum to the companies that have already demonstrated a commitment to compete and offer these services – TerreStar and ICO – and an equally important opportunity to demonstrate its own commitment to homeland security and America’s emergency services.

MSS will also provide affordable, sophisticated mobile voice and data services to consumers in traditionally underserved areas – especially rural parts of the country. These areas are home to millions of Americans, and to industries, like agriculture and transportation, that form the backbone of our economy. These communities and businesses alike will benefit immensely from the reliable mobile communications provided by MSS.



Fact Sheet: Timeline of S-Band Mobile Satellite Services (MSS)

- 1992:** Following initial indications that demand would increase in L-band, the World Radiocommunication Conference (WRC-92) takes preliminary steps to allocate MSS spectrum in the S-band.
- 1995:** MSS allocation in S-band is formally approved at WRC-95.
- 1997:** The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) reallocates 70 MHz (2 x 35 of spectrum to MSS at 1990-2025 MHz and 2165-2000 MHz, providing for relocation of broadcast auxiliary and fixed service incumbents by MSS entrants.

Nine MSS applicants apply to provide S-band service to the U.S.

- 2000:** FCC adopts service rules for the S-band and decides that the S-band spectrum will be distributed *pro rata* among the licensees.

FCC expressly anticipates that some licensees may not actually build systems and that the spectrum they surrender could be redistributed to the remaining providers.

- 2001:** S-band MSS authorizations are granted to eight entities; each licensee receives an initial 2 x 3.5 MHz assignment.

FCC opens rulemaking to consider permitting MSS licensees to offer ancillary terrestrial component (ATC) service via reuse of satellite spectrum.

- 2003:** Following cancellation of three MSS licenses, FCC reassigns some S-band spectrum to terrestrial wireless services but leaves 2 x 20 MHz for MSS.

Spectrum assignments of remaining S-band providers are increased to 2 x 4 MHz.

Over objections of wireless carriers, FCC adopts rules authorizing MSS licensees to offer ATC upon meeting certain satellite service prerequisites. FCC explains that the terrestrial component will:

- Enhance public safety
- Ensure spectrum efficiency
- Improve MSS coverage in urban canyons where satellite signal is blocked
- Reduce costs of providing MSS
- Strengthen competition in MSS markets



2004: MSV (L-band) is granted first ever authorization to provide ATC.

2005: FCC adopts reconsideration order affirming right of MSS licensees to offer ATC service.

Verizon Wireless voluntarily drops its court appeal of the FCC's 2003 ATC decision.

Additional MSS carriers announce that they will apply for ATC authorization.

Following additional license surrenders, two strong competitors for S-band spectrum emerge: TMI/TerreStar and ICO.

- Each S-band carrier certifies continued milestone compliance
- FCC proposes to redistribute at least some, and perhaps all, of available S-band spectrum to TMI/TerreStar and ICO; each provider could obtain up to 2 x 10 MHz
- TMI/TerreStar publicly announces its intent to apply for ATC authorization at the earliest possible date



Questions and Answers: Mobile Satellite Services (MSS) and the 2 GHz Spectrum

What is Mobile Satellite Services (MSS)?

MSS is a satellite system that sends signals to portable receivers, which can be placed on vehicles or inside small handsets, similar to today's cell phones.

What is Ancillary Terrestrial Component (ATC)?

ATCs are tower-mounted antennas, which improve satellite phone service in areas where reception is blocked by terrain or buildings.

What is an MSS/ATC integrated system?

Unlike traditional cellular or satellite systems, an integrated mobile communications system will allow users to connect reliably from any location, no matter how remote or isolated. Because satellites are not susceptible to disruption like radios and cell towers in times of disaster, an integrated system is an added insurance policy in the event of a communications failure. Together, MSS and ATC form an integrated mobile communications system that will provide instant, seamless, ubiquitous coverage through satellite and earthbound resources.

Why is MSS/ATC so important?

It is essential that the U.S. have a unified vision to ensure reliable communications in times of emergency and for homeland security purposes, as well as for all Americans, wherever they live. MSS/ATC is the technology that integrates our communications networks and provides reliable, quality, interoperable and ubiquitous mobile communications services.

Why is the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) redistributing 2 GHz spectrum?

In 2001, eight companies held FCC licenses for MSS spectrum. Over the next four years, several failed to meet key requirements and lost their licenses. Recently, Iridium LLC, the Boeing Company and Celsat America, Inc. surrendered their licenses for MSS spectrum and exited the marketplace, leaving 40 MHz in the 2 GHz spectrum available for redistribution. The FCC is in the process of deciding what to do with this remaining spectrum: (1) allocate the spectrum equally to the two remaining licensees, TerreStar and ICO; (2) divide the spectrum between TerreStar, ICO and Inmarsat, a recent applicant; or (3) reallocate the spectrum to another service.

What is "2 x 10" capability? Why should the 40 MHz be divided equally between TerreStar and ICO?

"2 x 10" capability – 10 MHz of uplink capacity and 10 MHz of downlink capacity – allows enough bandwidth to guarantee robust voice and data services for first responders, underserved areas, and the mobile communications consumer. Because only 40 MHz of spectrum are currently available, and since "2 x 10" is



the minimum to supply for adequate service, only two companies may be granted licenses. As the only companies that have demonstrated a commitment to providing MSS, TerreStar and ICO should share the 40 MHz allocation equally.

Are there outside companies vying for this crucial spectrum?

While TerreStar and ICO have long been part of the MSS spectrum licensing process, a company called Inmarsat recently filed for spectrum as well. Given the late filing date, it is clear that Inmarsat is trying to act as a spoiler – stepping into the process at the last minute to seize some of 2 GHz spectrum with no demonstrable evidence that it intends to compete. Inmarsat has neither made an investment in MSS nor has it announced any intention to build and operate an MSS system.

Why shouldn't the FCC allow additional competitors to enter the market at this time?

To allow other companies the right to operate in this spectrum, the FCC would have to spread an already thin allocation of 40 MHz even thinner and force those who are already committed to the industry to decide which narrow slice of the available market they can serve – possibly at the expense of public safety.

What advantages does TerreStar bring to the market?

TerreStar is the first-to-market company that will develop, build and operate an innovative and efficient MSS/ATC integrated mobile communications system by 2008. TerreStar already has made substantial investments, has met all FCC milestones, and is committed to deploying MSS/ATC systems that will fill the communications needs that, after Hurricane Katrina, are now so clear.

Who will benefit most from MSS?

First Responders/Homeland Security: First responders and law enforcement officials are in desperate need of reliable communications systems. MSS technology is part of the solution – it provides communications that are fully reliable and survivable during even the worst disasters.

Consumers/Rural Community: An integrated system will provide affordable, sophisticated mobile voice and data services to consumers in traditionally underserved areas – especially rural parts of the country. Underserved rural areas are home to millions of Americans, and to industries, like agriculture and transportation, that form the backbone of the American economy. These communities, consumers and industries alike will benefit immensely from the reliable mobile communications provided by MSS.



AMERICAN FARM BUREAU FEDERATION®

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November 4, 2005

The Honorable Kevin Martin
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: IB Docket No. 05-221

Dear Chairman Martin:

The American Farm Bureau Federation is the nation's largest general farm organization in the country. We represent 5.8 million member families in 49 states and Puerto Rico. We strongly support efforts to increase broadband access throughout rural America. We know you share this goal, and we commend you on this effort.

Many rural areas are faced with low-quality, unreliable coverage. They are underserved by current technologies like digital cellular technology. Steps must be taken to address the shortfall in communications coverage for Americans in rural areas.

When first-responders, emergency personnel and even government officials were unable to talk to one another in Katrina's aftermath, the whole country witnessed the importance of reliable access to mobile communications. This is something with which millions of rural Americans are especially familiar. In rural communities across the country, people are forced to rely on ground-based systems with intermittent, poor-quality coverage that cuts out between mountains, in isolated areas, and during storms. America's farmers and ranchers and all rural Americans deserve better.

America must have a mobile communication system that serves everyone. We believe there is merit in a technology called Mobile Satellite Services (MSS). It can provide the universal and high-quality communications that our rural communities desperately need. Because MSS uses satellite technology to send signals to handsets similar to the mobile phones we use today, it could reach even the most remote areas of the country.

We understand that in order to provide the all-encompassing system our rural communities and first responders require, current licensees need robust spectrum. Farm Bureau believes allocation of this spectrum presents an opportunity for the FCC to demonstrate its commitment to rural Americans. Over 90 percent of our farm families work off the farm in order to help make ends meet. This makes a vibrant rural America just as important to the future of agriculture as is a vibrant agriculture to the future of rural America. We are well aware that availability of improved communication technology is the only way to increase the number and quality of jobs

in rural America. Increasing the availability of mobile satellite service will greatly benefit rural users by providing reliable service and broadband access.

We appreciate your consideration of our views and urge you to move quickly to distribute the spectrum to licensees that have demonstrated a commitment to MSS.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bob Stallman', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Bob Stallman
President

cc: Kathleen Q. Abernathy
Jonathan S. Adelstein
Michael J. Copps
Mariene Dortch

CONRAD BURNS
MONTANA
DEPUTY WHIP

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2603
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COMMITTEE
APPROPRIATIONS
COMMERCE, SCIENCE AND
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ENERGY AND NATURAL
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SMALL BUSINESS AND
ENTREPRENEURSHIP
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

October 7, 2005

The Honorable Kevin Martin
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Martin:

We support the actions taken by you and your fellow commissioners at the Federal Communications Commission immediately following the telecommunications disruption caused by Hurricane Katrina. The flexibility you provided to communications firms to prepare for Gulf region recovery and your willingness to expedite administrative processes and waive regulations that might hamper reconstruction have been exemplary. But there is more to do.

A critical component in the ability of our nation to move forward in its ability to react to and recover from disasters is currently under review by the Commission. On August 29, 2005, the country experienced its worst natural disaster in the form of Hurricane Katrina. On September 22, 2005, The Senate Commerce Committee held a hearing during which you testified on the actions as Chairman of the Federal Communications Commission in response to Hurricane Katrina and the impending threat of Hurricane Rita.

The lessons of the Hurricane Katrina disaster are apparent and almost self-evident. First, telecommunications systems are essential to an effective rescue and relief effort, for both the public at large and for first responders. Second, we cannot assume the ground-based telecommunications infrastructure will survive and, therefore, it alone will not suffice. As you testified before the Senate Commerce Committee on September 22nd, "... If we learned anything from Hurricane Katrina, it is that we cannot rely solely on terrestrial communications. When radio towers are knocked down, satellite communications are... the most effective means of communicating..."

We could not agree more. Indeed, communications satellite services are a critical component of our nation's telecommunications infrastructure. But today, mobile satellite systems are starved for frequencies. Consequently, we are writing directly to you to request that the FCC move expeditiously to ensure that necessary capacity is made available in the mobile satellite band to support the requirements of the homeland security community and America's first responders.

As Congress begins to evaluate the disaster response effort, one thing is evident: America must have available to it sufficient and reliable communications in times of crisis in order to save lives. Satellites are part of the answer. Congress and the Commission have appropriately focused on the need to bring the next generation of mobile broadband communications

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technology to all Americans. Providing mobile satellite providers with the allocation necessary to deploy a robust mobile satellite service integrated with an ancillary terrestrial component will honor that commitment.

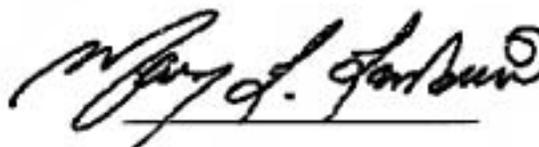
The FCC has the opportunity in the current proceeding to allocate spectrum to current S-band licensees to provide service capacity for emergency communications. Accordingly, we urge the Commission to move forward without further delay to allocate the necessary spectrum to mobile satellite licensees as expeditiously as possible.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Sen. Conrad R. Burns



Sen. Mary Landrieu

cc: Commissioner Abernathy
Commissioner Copps
Commissioner Adelstein

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

August 4, 2005

The Honorable Michael Chertoff
Secretary
Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20528

Re: Ensuring Sufficient Spectrum for Hybrid Satellite/Terrestrial Systems for
Homeland Defense by the Federal Communications Commission

Dear Secretary Chertoff:

We wanted to bring to your attention an issue that is of great importance to the homeland security of the United States that is pending at the Federal Communications Commission, and one that we trust the Department of Homeland Security will take the lead on. The FCC is considering whether it will assign additional spectrum (for a total of 2x10 MHz) to existing mobile satellite service licensees in the 2 GHz band, with a terrestrial component to their service.¹ These licensees are developing advanced hybrid satellite/terrestrial systems that will provide ubiquitous, fully reliable, redundant and interoperable high-speed data services across the United States. Several terrestrial providers and satellite service providers are urging the FCC to leave these hybrid systems capacity constrained. If the FCC assigns the hybrid-system licensees the full 20 MHz of spectrum, these systems will also have the capacity to handle the types of advanced applications that are being developed for use by emergency responders.

In our experience, lack of spectrum capacity is a major impediment to the development of advanced communications applications for emergency management and homeland security. Legacy networks are unable to support advanced security applications. Advanced security applications cannot be dependent on networks with a variety of protocols, varied bandwidth, competing commercial priorities and products and tenuous interconnection arrangements.

The FCC, working with the Department of Homeland Security, has an opportunity to avoid these challenges – which by their very nature take time and resources to work out – by ensuring a next-generation, ubiquitous, interoperable nation-wide wireless system. Such a system permits the end user – the public safety and homeland security entities at the federal, state and local levels – to develop, design and deploy critical advanced security applications without undue complication.

¹ Public Notice, Commission Invites Comments Concerning Use of Portions of Returned 2 GHz Mobile Satellite Service Frequencies, FCC 05-134 (June 29, 2005); Public Notice, Commission Invites Comments Concerning Use of Portions of Returned 2 GHz Mobile Satellite Service Frequencies, FCC 05-133 (June 29, 2005).

The 2 GHz band MSS systems that are currently licensed can fill this void only if the FCC allows them each access to the full 2x10 MHz of spectrum that is available in the S band. Airport and aircraft security are one important area where the licensees could use the spectrum for a critical national security use. As you recently recognized, "[i]n aviation, our security and our convenience and efficiency can be strengthened by better use of technology, both existing and next generation technology."² Advanced imaging applications are being developed that could permit passenger scrutiny from *inside the aircraft before it departs the terminal*. This could be performed over a wireless signal from the plane to a satellite, which would transmit the data to TSA within the Department of Homeland Security. Existing satellite systems may not be able to provide sufficient resolution and bandwidth for this kind of application. Additionally, the Department of Defense has issued a Request For Information on the feasibility of interconnecting, via broadband, 450 critical domestic sites – many in rural or remote areas – to close any gaps in our homeland defense infrastructure. Most of these sites are in rural areas, which lack a developed land-based telecommunications infrastructure. Consequently, a ubiquitous, nationwide wireless communications network with both a satellite and terrestrial component could fill this requirement.

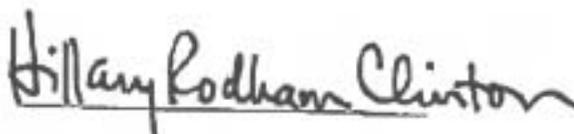
In addition, we see these hybrid wireless systems playing an important role for millions of rural Americans, because these systems will serve as a seamless back-up in situations where the terrestrial network is down because of a natural disaster or terrorist attack.

As you correctly recognized during your Second Stage Review, it is imperative that the Department of Homeland Security has a leading role in telecommunications to protect our critical infrastructure. Accordingly, we are asking the Department of Homeland Security to play a leading role on this issue. We believe the FCC would give some deference to your views on this matter, and we urge you to be actively involved as the FCC considers how it will allocate this spectrum. Please contact us if you have any additional questions.

Sincerely,



Conrad R. Burns



Hillary Rodham Clinton

² Secretary Michael Chertoff, U.S. Department of Homeland Security Second Stage Review Remarks, July 13, 2005.

ALABAMA ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE

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President
Demopolis Police Department

LOUIS ZOOK
Vice President
Sylacauga Police Department

PAT CREEL
Secretary
Red Bay Police Department



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Honorable Kevin Martin
Chairman, Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

IBDocket No. 05-221

Dear Chairman Martin:

In my capacity as the Executive Director of the Alabama Association of Chiefs of Police, I see the imperativeness of facilitating a cost-effective, secure, widespread, and reliable public safety network. We look forward to the availability of advanced integrated satellite/terrestrial systems in an effort to overcome the cost associated with the mobile satellite systems. The integrated network will allow the cellular telephone user to use the cell telephone on existing cell towers or to use a satellite network if the cellular telephone network is inoperative.

The recent hurricane Katrina has shown us our National Homeland Security Communications Systems are susceptible to widespread failure in light of natural disasters. Satellite systems are always available when our land-based communications system experiences widespread failure. The cost of the satellite systems handsets and the service fees involved make the systems cost prohibitive for public safety agencies.

The current licensees will be available to deliver commercial mobile satellite service ("MSS") to millions of Americans in the rural and underserved areas with an offer of back-up communications system should the existing communication system fail. To provide this service for both commercial and as the secondary communications system; current licensees must be given adequate bandwidth.

With your move forward with distribution of the spectrum, I urge the Commission to allocate 20 MHz if 2 GHz MSS spectrum on a *pro rata* basis to TMI/TerreStar Networks Inc., and ICO Satellite Services respectively. This would be a cost effective and secure manner to provide the last line of defense for any emergencies with our communications and I offer it as a solution.

Respectively,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John W. Anderson".
John W. Anderson
Executive Director
Alabama Association of Chiefs of Police

Cc: Commissioner Abernathy
Commissioner Adelstein
Commissioner Copps
Secretary of the Commission

JWA/tka

Alaska Trucking Association

3443 Minnesota Dr Anchorage, AK (907)-276-1149

November 14, 2005

The Honorable Kevin Martin
Chairman, Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

IB Docket No. 05-221

Dear Chairman Martin:

It has come to our attention that the FCC has set as one of its highest priorities efforts to accelerate developing broadband access in America. In my capacity as President of the Alaska Trucking Association, I strongly urge that the Commission put a strong emphasis on solutions that will support broadband coverage in rural parts of America. Despite significant broadband coverage throughout the U.S., many areas still have inadequate coverage. We believe that the satellite industry, because of its ability to provide service everywhere, is one sector which can play a vital role in bringing broadband to millions more Americans.

We understand technology exists which will allow cell phones to receive a signal from either a cell tower or a satellite. In order to overcome the high cost typically associated with mobile satellite systems, we are looking forward to the availability of advanced hybrid satellite/terrestrial systems. A hybrid network will allow a cell phone user to use a cell phone on existing cell towers or to use a satellite network if the cell phone network is inoperative. This assures virtually every location in the U.S. will receive broadband access, especially rural and underserved areas. This is particularly important to many of our members who often travel through underserved areas.

Not only could this approach allow for communications to and from virtually any outdoor location, it could also allow first responders to have an affordable, ubiquitous, redundant and interoperable communications system so crucial to homeland security.

We understand that the Commission will soon determine whether to divide the remaining one-third of the 2 GHz mobile satellite service ("MSS") spectrum between TMI/TerreStar Networks Inc. ("TerreStar") and ICO Satellite Services ("ICO") or take another approach.

We strongly urge the FCC to move expeditiously on this item and support the allocation of this spectrum on a "2x10" basis to these two satellite operators that have already demonstrated a commitment to compete and offer these services. Thank you for your consideration of our views.

Sincerely,
Alaska Trucking Association



Michael Bell
Director

Cc: Commissioner [Kathleen Q. Abernathy](#)
Commissioner [Jonathan S. Adelstein](#)
Commissioner [Michael J. Copps](#)
Secretary of the Commission



November 8, 2005

The Honorable Kevin Martin, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

IB Docket No. 05-221

Dear Chairman Martin:

It has come to my attention that the FCC has set as one of its highest priorities efforts to accelerate developing broadband access in America. In my capacity as Executive Director for the Alabama Recreation and Parks Association, I strongly urge that the Commission support solutions that will expand broadband coverage in rural parts of America. Despite significant broadband coverage throughout the U.S., many areas still have inadequate coverage. I believe that the satellite industry, because of its ability to provide service everywhere, is one sector that can play a vital role in bringing broadband to millions more Americans.

I understand technology exists which will allow cell phones to receive a signal from either a cell tower or a satellite. In order to overcome the high cost typically associated with mobile satellite systems, we are looking forward to the availability of advanced hybrid satellite/terrestrial systems. A hybrid network will allow a cell phone user to use a cell phone on existing cell towers or to use a satellite network if the cell phone network is inoperative. This assures virtually every location in the U.S. will receive broadband access, especially rural and underserved areas.

In light of the recent natural disasters that have occurred, I feel that pursuing the opportunity to enhance communication capabilities is of paramount importance. Members of our association play critical roles in their local communities when disaster response is required. In fact many of our 650 member professionals from across Alabama volunteered their services to the coastal communities that were impacted by hurricane Katrina. Further, a significant number of park and recreation facilities served as shelters following this storm, a task they perform whenever the need arises. As we have learned the inability to maintain landline or current cell services played a significant role in delaying information and much needed disaster relief.

I understand that the Commission will soon determine whether to divide the remaining one-third of the 2 GHz mobile satellite service ("MSS") spectrum between TMI/TerreStar Networks Inc. ("TerreStar") and ICO Satellite Services ("ICO") or take another approach.

I strongly urge the FCC to move expeditiously on this item and support the allocation of this spectrum on a "2x10" basis to these two satellite operators that have already demonstrated a commitment to compete and offer these services. Thank you for your consideration of my views.

Sincerely,

Paul A. Morton
ARPA Executive Director

Cc: Commissioner Kathleen O. Abernathy
Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein
Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Secretary of the Commission



Santa Fe Police Department City of Santa Fe, New Mexico



Larry A. Delgado, Mayor
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David Coss, Dist. 3
Matthew E. Ortiz, Dist. 4

November 4, 2005

Honorable Kevin Martin
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

IB Docket No. 05-221

Dear Chairman Martin:

Hurricane Katrina has demonstrated that our nation's Homeland security communications systems are susceptible to widespread failure in light of natural and other disasters. In every case of widespread failure of our land-based communications system, another form of communications is always available: satellite. However, very expensive user handsets and high service fees make today's satellite systems prohibitively costly for public safety agencies.

In my capacity, as Santa Fe Police Department's Deputy Chief of Police, I think it is imperative that we facilitate a cost-effective, secure, widespread, and reliable public safety network. In order to overcome the high cost typically associated with mobile satellite systems, we are looking forward to the availability of advanced hybrid satellite/terrestrial systems. A hybrid network will allow a cell phone user to use a cell phone on existing cell towers or to use a satellite network if the cell phone network is inoperative.

Current licensees will be able to deliver both affordable commercial mobile satellite service ("MSS") to millions of Americans in rural and underserved areas, and offer a "back-up" communications system should our current Homeland Security system fail. However, in order to provide both commercial service and act as a secondary communications system in the event of a communications failure, I believe current licensees must be given adequate bandwidth.

As you move forward with the distribution of spectrum, I urge the Commission to allocate 20 MHz of 2 GHz MSS spectrum on a *pro rata* basis to TML/TerrcStar Networks Inc., and ICO Satellite Services respectively. This communications solution would help to provide the last line of defense for any emergencies that could arise, natural or otherwise, in a cost effective and secure manner.

Sincerely,


ERIC B. JOHNSON
Deputy Chief of Police
Santa Fe Police Department



Arkansas Sheriffs' Association

#1 Sheriffs Lane • North Little Rock, Arkansas 72114 • (501) 758-0020 • Fax (501) 791-0326

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November 4, 2005

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Larry Mills
Poinsett County

Executive Director
Chuck Lange

Honorable Kevin Martin
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

IB Docket No. 05-221

Dear Chairman Martin:

Hurricane Katrina has demonstrated that our nation's Homeland security communications systems are susceptible to widespread failure in light of natural and other disasters. In every case of widespread failure of our land-based communications system, another form of communications is always available: satellite. However, very expensive user handsets and high service fees make today's satellite systems prohibitively costly for public safety agencies.

In my capacity as Executive Director of the Arkansas Sheriffs' Association, I think it is imperative that we facilitate a cost-effective, secure, widespread, and reliable public safety network. In order to overcome the high cost typically associated with mobile satellite systems, we are looking forward to the availability of advanced integrated satellite/terrestrial systems. A hybrid network will allow a cell phone user to use a cell phone on existing cell towers or to use a satellite network if the cell phone network is inoperative.

Current licenses will be able to deliver both affordable commercial mobile satellite service ("MSS") to millions of Americans in rural and underserved areas, and offer a "back-up" communications system should our current Homeland Security system fail. However, in order to provide both commercial service and act as a secondary communication system in the event of a communications failure, I believe current licensees must be given adequate bandwidth.

As you move forward with the distribution of spectrum, I urge the Commission to allocate 20 MHz of 2 GHz MSS spectrum on a *pro rata* basis to TMI/TerreStar Networks, Inc., and ICO Satellite Services respectively. This communication solution would help to provide the last line of defense for any emergencies that could arise, natural or otherwise, in a cost effective and secure manner.

Sincerely,

Chuck Lange
Executive Director



ALABAMA Forestry ASSOCIATION

November 3, 2005

2004-2005 OFFICERS

Chairman:
Robert P. Sharp
President:
Stephen Loveland
President-Elect:
Stephan Tomlinson
Secretary-Treasurer:
Dwight Harrigan
Executive Vice President:
John McMillan, CAE

The Honorable Kevin Martin
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: IB Docket No. 05-221

DISTRICT DIRECTORS

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Danny White
Camille O. Wilson

Dear Chairman Martin:

As Executive Vice President of the Alabama Forestry Association, I am writing about a matter that impacts many in our membership... communications. Despite significant broadband coverage throughout the U.S., many areas still have inadequate coverage. I believe that the satellite industry, because of its ability to provide service everywhere, is one sector that can play a vital role in bringing broadband to millions more Americans.

America must have a mobile communication system that serves *everyone*. Fortunately, a technology called Mobile Satellite Services, or MSS, can provide exactly the universal and high-quality communications that our rural communities desperately need. MSS uses satellite technology that is not affected by terrain or weather to send signals to handsets similar to the mobile phones we use today. By combining MSS with a ground-based system (called ATC), MSS/ATC would provide an *integrated mobile communications network* that can reach even the most remote homes, forests, farms and businesses. MSS's ubiquitous coverage would finally fulfill the promise of high-quality phone service in rural areas – solving a problem that traditional service providers have been unwilling or unable to address. The benefits of this service would also extend to first responders and emergency personnel, for whom reliable, survivable communication is essential in a crisis.

Like all communications technologies, MSS needs enough bandwidth to provide the robust, all-encompassing system our rural communities and first responders require. Currently, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is deciding how to allocate MSS spectrum. This presents an opportunity for the FCC to demonstrate its commitment to all Americans by allocating MSS spectrum to the companies that have already demonstrated a commitment to compete and offer these services. MSS technology can help ensure that our citizens, especially our rural communities, have the reliable and seamless coverage they need. Our nation's economy and security may depend on it.

I understand that the Commission will soon determine whether to divide the remaining one-third of the 2 GHz mobile satellite service ("MSS") spectrum between TMI/TerreStar Networks Inc. ("TerreStar") and ICO Satellite Services ("ICO") or take another approach.

I strongly urge the FCC to move expeditiously on this item and support the allocation of this spectrum on a "2x10" basis to these two satellite operators that have already demonstrated a commitment to compete and offer these services. Thank you for your consideration of my views.

Sincerely,


John McMillan, EVP ..

Cc: Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy
Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein
Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Secretary of the Commission



Southern Shrimp Alliance, Inc.

1078 Island Avenue

Tarpon Springs, Florida 34689

Phone: 727-934-5090 Fax: 727-934-5362

October 25, 2005

The Honorable Kevin Martin
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

IB Docket No. 05-221

Dear Chairman Martin:

As you know, there is a matter before the Commission that involves Mobile Satellite Service (MSS). This MSS technology will allow mobile satellite-cell phones to receive a signal from a cell tower and a satellite. As Executive Director of the Southern Shrimp Alliance (SSA), an organization that has 2,500 members throughout eight states, I want the Commission to know that the SSA supports this technology and those companies who can quickly market this technology. Therefore, we support allocating 20 MHz of 2 GHz MSS spectrum on a pro rata basis to TMI/TerreStar Networks Inc., and ICO Satellite Services.

MSS will virtually eliminate "dead zones," which is very important for shrimp boats and their crews who are away from cell networks. It is critical that we have a reliable communications network. MSS would provide a new, critical life link for our offshore operations.

Many of our members recently experienced Hurricanes Katrina and Rita and know the value of having reliable communications equipment. I understand that MSS will be a back up communications system in the event of another disaster. This is important in not only saving lives, but for restoring communities and getting people back to work.

I urge the Commission to make its determination on this spectrum in the near future. The SSA strongly supports the allocation of this spectrum on a "2x10" basis to TerreStar and ICO. Thank you for your consideration of our views.

Sincerely,

John Williams

cc: Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy
Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein
Commissioner Michael J. Copps

Secretary of the Commission



www.sd cattlemen.org

October 24, 2005

The Honorable Kevin Martin
Chairman, Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

IB Docket No. 05-221

Dear Chairman Martin:

I understand that the FCC has set as one of its highest priorities efforts to accelerate developing broadband access in America. In my capacity as Executive Director for the South Dakota Cattlemen's Association, I strongly urge the Commission to put a strong emphasis on solutions that will support broadband coverage in rural parts of America. Despite significant broadband coverage throughout the U.S., many areas still have inadequate coverage. I believe the satellite industry, because of its ability to provide service everywhere, is one sector which can play a vital role in bringing broadband to millions more Americans.

I understand technology exists which will allow cell phones to receive a signal from either a cell tower or a satellite. In order to overcome the high cost typically associated with mobile satellite systems, we are looking forward to the availability of advanced hybrid satellite/terrestrial systems. A hybrid network will allow a cell phone user to use a cell phone on existing cell towers or to use a satellite network if the cell phone network is inoperative. This assures virtually every location in the U.S. will receive broadband access, especially rural and underserved areas.

Not only could this approach allow for communications to and from virtually any outdoor location, it could also allow first responders to have an affordable, ubiquitous, redundant and interoperable communications system so crucial to homeland security. In addition, it would allow our agricultural producers and rural residents unequalled access to reliable communications to operate their businesses in an efficient and cost-effective manner.

I understand the Commission will soon determine whether to divide the remaining one-third of the 2 GHz mobile satellite service ("MSS") spectrum between TMI/TerreStar Networks Inc. ("TerreStar") and ICO Satellite Services ("ICO") or take another approach.

I strongly urge the FCC to move expeditiously on this item and support the allocation of this spectrum on a "2x10" basis to these two satellite operators that have already demonstrated a commitment to compete and offer these services. Thanks in advance for your consideration.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jodie Hickman Hettinger".

Jodie Hickman Hettinger
Executive Director

Cc: Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy
Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein
Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Secretary of the Commission

CORN growers

association of north carolina, inc.

October 24, 2005

7520-102 LEAD MINE ROAD
RALEIGH, NC 27615

The Honorable Kevin Martin, Chairman
Federal Communication Commission
445 12th Street, South West
Washington, DC 20554

Re: IB Docket# 05-221

Dear Chairman Martin:

The Corn Growers Association of North Carolina would like to express our views regarding rural communications. This is an important issue to our membership.

We understand technology exists which will allow cell phones to receive a signal from a cell tower and a satellite. In order to overcome the high cost typically associated with mobile satellite systems, we are looking forward to the availability of advanced integrated satellite/terrestrial systems. We believe that mobile satellite service is one way to improve rural communications and will allow our members to use their time more efficiently.

Currently, many farmers must make calls from a landline because broadband coverage is intermittent or does not exist. Since this mobile satellite service will effectively end coverage "dead zones," farmers could call and get replacement parts, talk with employees, or stay in contact with the N. C. State Farm Service Agency concerning information and regulations without leaving the field and without worrying about their mobile connection. We see this as a real benefit to Americans in rural areas.

For the reasons above and in an effort to increase broadband access to rural communities, we urge the Commission to move expeditiously to allocate the 20MHz of spectrum on a pro rata basis TMI/TerreStar Networks Inc. and ICO Satellite Services respectively.

Sincerely,

Ronnie Burlison

Ronnie Burlison, President
Corn Growers Association of NC



Maine Chiefs of Police Association

P.O. Box 2431 • South Portland, Maine 04116-2431

Robert M. Schwartz Executive Director, • Tel: (207) 799-9318 • Fax: (207) 767-2214
E-mail: mcopa@maine.rr.com • Web site: www.mainechiefs.us

President

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Baldyville Police Department

Officers 2005 - 2006

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Chief Michael Emmons
Wiscasset Police Dept.

2nd Vice President
Chief Douglas Bracy
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Sergeant-at-Arms
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Director Brian MacMaster
Department of Attorney General

Immediate Past President
Chief Jerry Hinton
Brunswick Police Dept.

Chaplain
Chief Leroy L. Jones
Waldoboro Police Dept.

Legislative Liaison
Steven Giorgatti

October 24, 2005

Honorable Kevin Martin, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

IB Docket No. 05-221

Dear Chairman Martin:

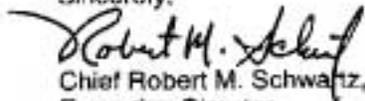
Hurricanes Katrina & Rita has demonstrated that our nation's Homeland Security communications systems are susceptible to widespread failure in light of natural and other disasters. In every case of widespread failure our land based communications system, another form of communications is always available, satellite. However, very expensive user handsets and high service fees make today's satellite systems prohibitively costly for public safety agencies.

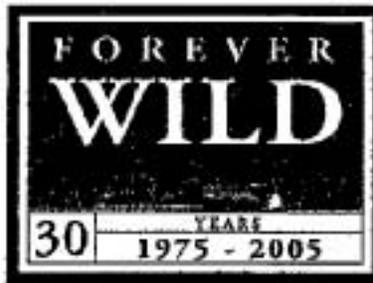
The Maine Chiefs of Police Association think it is imperative that we facilitate a cost effective, secure, widespread, and reliable public safety network. In order to overcome the high costs typically associated with mobile satellite systems, we are looking forward to the availability of advanced hybrid satellite/terrestrial systems. A hybrid network will allow a cell phone user to use a cell phone on existing cell towers or to use a satellite network if the cell phone network is inoperative.

Current licenses will be able to deliver both affordable commercial mobile satellite service to millions of Americans in rural and underserved areas, and offer a backup communications system should our Homeland Security system fail. However, in order to provide both commercial service and act as a secondary communications system in the event of a communications failure, current licensees must be given adequate bandwidth.

As you move forward with the distribution of spectrum. We urge the commission to allocate 20 MHz of 2GHz MSS spectrum on a pro rata basis to TMI/TerreStar Networks, Inc and ICO Satellite Services respectively. This communications solution would help to provide the last line of defense for any emergencies that could arise, natural or otherwise, in a cost effective and secure manner.

Sincerely,


Chief Robert M. Schwartz, Ret.
Executive Director



THE ADIRONDACK COUNCIL
Defending the East's Last Great Wilderness

October 21, 2005

The Honorable Kevin Martin
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

IB Docket No. 05-221

Dear Chairman Martin:

It has come to my attention that the FCC has set as one of its highest priorities efforts to accelerate developing broadband access in America. In my capacity as spokesman for The Adirondack Council, I strongly urge that the Commission put a strong emphasis on solutions that will support broadband coverage in rural parts of America. Despite significant broadband coverage throughout the U.S., many areas still have inadequate coverage. I believe that the satellite industry, because of its ability to provide service everywhere, is one sector which can play a vital role in bringing broadband to millions more Americans.

I understand technology exists which will allow cell phones to receive a signal from either a cell tower or a satellite. In order to overcome the high cost typically associated with mobile satellite systems, we are looking forward to the availability of advanced hybrid satellite/terrestrial systems. A hybrid network will allow a cell phone user to use a cell phone on existing cell towers or to use a satellite network if the cell phone network is inoperative. This assures virtually every location in the U.S. will receive broadband access, especially rural and underserved areas.

Not only could this approach allow for communications to and from virtually any outdoor location, it could also allow first responders to have an affordable, ubiquitous, redundant and interoperable communications system so crucial to homeland security.

I understand that the Commission will soon determine whether to divide the remaining one-third of the 2 GHz mobile satellite service ("MSS") spectrum between TML/TerreStar Networks Inc. ("TerreStar") and ICO Satellite Services ("ICO") or take another approach.

I strongly urge the FCC to move expeditiously on this item and support the allocation of this spectrum on a "2x10" basis to these two satellite operators that have already demonstrated a commitment to compete and offer these services. Thank you for your consideration of my views.

The Adirondack Council is an 18,000-member, privately funded, not-for-profit organization with members in all 50 United States. Founded in 1975, the Adirondack Council's mission is to ensure the ecological integrity and wild character of the New York's six-million-acre Adirondack Park. The Adirondack Park is the largest American park outside of Alaska. Yosemite, Yellowstone, Glacier and Grand Canyon National Parks would all fit easily inside the Adirondack Park. Created in 1892, it contains 90 percent of all roadless Wilderness from Maine to Georgia and the largest expanse of never-cut ancient forest in the Northeastern United States.

The Adirondack Park is also a lived-in landscape, with 92 towns, 130,000 permanent residents and nearly 10 million visitors a year. In 1924, New York State passed the first in a series of laws designed to protect the Park's natural beauty by banning all billboards and off-premises business signs. Today, the Adirondack Park Agency must approve the construction of anything taller than the treetops (40 feet). These policies have allowed us to maintain an isle of green forest in one of the most densely populated regions of North America.

However, the desire to improve emergency communications and cell phone coverage in the rugged terrain of the Adirondacks is causing state and local officials to ignore land-use controls in the rush to install tower-based equipment. The higher the number of viable alternatives to tall, stand-alone towers (especially on mountain peaks) we have at our disposal, the greater chance we will have to protect our amazing legacy here in the Adirondack Park. We urge you to encourage this new use of broadband and satellite technology by approving TerreStar's application.

Sincerely,



John F. Sheehan
Director of Communications
The Adirondack Council
Media & Government Relations Office
342 Hamilton Street
Albany, NY 12210
518-432-1770

Main Office
103 Hand Avenue, Suite 1
Elizabethtown, NY 12932
518-873-2240

cc: Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy
Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein
Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Secretary of the Commission



Arkansas Forestry Association

410 S. Cross St., Little Rock AR 72201-3014 • Telephone 501.374.2441 • Fax 501.374.6413 • www.arkforests.org

October 20, 2005

Frank Wilsbn
President
Reagon

The Honorable Kevin Martin
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Randy Crowder
Vice President
Camden

RE: IB Docket No. 05-221

Dear Chairman Martin:

Glenn Gray
Secretary
Crossett

I am writing on behalf of the Arkansas Forestry Association in regard to the potential expansion of broadband coverage in rural areas of our country. It is our hope that the commission will put a strong emphasis on this issue, which will provide such areas with better access to communications and emergency assistance.

Miles Lary
Treasurer
Morrilton

It is our understanding that technology exists which will allow cell phones to receive a signal from either a cell tower or a satellite. In order to overcome the high cost typically associated with mobile satellite systems, we are looking forward to the availability of advanced hybrid satellite/terrestrial systems. Such networks allow a cell phone user to use a cell phone on existing cell towers or to use a satellite network if the cell phone network is inoperative. This assures virtually every location in the U.S. will receive broadband access, especially rural and underserved areas.

J. Kelly Robbins
Executive VP

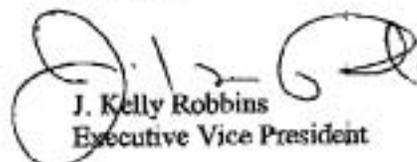
Not only could this approach allow for communications to and from virtually any outdoor location, it could also allow first responders to have an affordable, redundant and interoperable communications system so crucial to homeland security

Executive Committee

Aubra Anthony
Steve Anthony
Allen Beckel
Ken Bragg
Peggy Clark
Ray Dillen
Henry Gilbert
Rhonda Hunter
Allen Morgan
Jim Newberry
Wayne Owen

We understand that the Commission will soon determine whether to divide the remaining one-third of the 2 GHz mobile satellite service ("MSS") spectrum between TML/TerreStar Networks Inc. ("TerreStar") and ICO Satellite Services ("ICO") or take another approach. Our hope is that the FCC will move quickly on this issue and support the allocation of this spectrum on a "2x10" basis to these two satellite operators that have already demonstrated a commitment to compete and offer these services. Thank you for your consideration of our position on this important matter.

Sincerely,



J. Kelly Robbins
Executive Vice President

Cc: Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy
Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein
Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Secretary of the Commission

October 18, 2005

The Honorable Kevin Martin, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

IB Docket No. 05-221

Dear Chairman Martin:

It has come to my attention that the FCC has set as one of its highest priorities efforts to accelerate developing broadband access in America. In my capacity as President of MEA-MFT – a 16,000 member union of k-12 teachers and classified personnel, higher education faculty, state and county employees, and private sector health care providers who live and work all over Montana – I urge the Commission to emphasize solutions that will support broadband coverage in rural America. Despite significant broadband coverage throughout the U.S., many areas – including rural areas right here in Montana – still have inadequate coverage. Because of its ability to provide service everywhere, the satellite industry is a sector that could play a vital role in bringing broadband to millions more Americans.

In order to overcome the high cost typically associated with mobile satellite systems, I am looking forward to the availability of advanced hybrid satellite/ terrestrial systems. A hybrid network would allow a cell phone user to use a cell phone on existing cell towers or use a satellite network if the cell phone network is inoperative. Speaking from personal experience, uninterrupted cell phone usage has become a business and educational necessity in Montana.

I understand the Commission will soon determine whether to divide the remaining one-third of the 2 GHz mobile satellite service ("MSS") spectrum between TMI/TerreStar Networks Inc. ("TerreStar") and ICO Satellite Services ("ICO") or take another approach.

I urge the FCC to move expeditiously on this item and support the allocation of this spectrum on a "2x10" basis to satellite operators that have demonstrated a commitment to compete and offer these services.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Eric Feaver, President
MEA-MFT

cc: Commissioner Kathleen O. Abernathy
Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein
Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Secretary of the Commission



GEORGIA FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE

772 MADDOX DR. SUITE 104 ELLIJAY, GEORGIA 30540
PH: 706-698-3311 TOLL FREE: 800-305-0237 FAX: 706-698-9017

October 15, 2005

Honorable Kevin Martin
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: IB Docket No. 05-221

Dear Chairman Martin:

Hurricane Katrina has demonstrated that our nation's Homeland security communications systems are susceptible to widespread failure in light of natural and other disasters. In every case of widespread failure of our land-based communications system, another form of communications is always available: satellite. However, very expensive user handsets and high service fees make today's satellite systems prohibitively costly for public safety agencies.

In my capacity as President of the Georgia Fraternal Order of Police, I think it is imperative that we facilitate a cost-effective, secure, widespread, and reliable public safety network. In order to overcome the high cost typically associated with mobile satellite systems, we are looking forward to the availability of advanced hybrid satellite/terrestrial systems. A hybrid network will allow a cell phone user to use a cell phone on existing cell towers or to use a satellite network if the cell phone network is inoperative.

Current licensees will be able to deliver both affordable commercial mobile satellite service ("MSS") to millions of Americans in rural and underserved areas, and offer a "back-up" communications system should our current Homeland Security system fail. However, in order to provide both commercial service and act as a secondary communications system in the event of a communications failure, I believe current licensees must be given adequate bandwidth.

As you move forward with the distribution of spectrum, I urge the Commission to allocate 20 MHz of 2 GHz MSS spectrum on a *pro rata* basis to TMI/TerreStar Networks Inc., and ICO Satellite Services respectively. This communications solution would help to provide the last line of defense for any emergencies that could arise, natural or otherwise, in a cost effective and secure manner.

Sincerely,

GEORGIA FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE

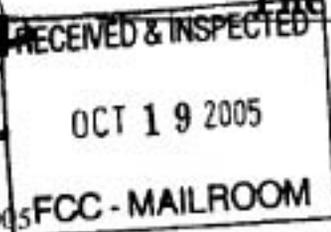
Carlton Stallings
President

CS/bw



The Aerospace States Association

2200 Wilson Blvd. #102-249, Arlington, VA 22209
Tel: 703-522-7745 E-mail: asa52@erols.com
www.aerostates.org



October 13, 2005

Chairman Kevin Martin
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Martin:

Re: Spectrum in the 2 GHz MSS Band, IB Docket No. 05-221

I am writing on behalf of the Aerospace States Association (ASA) to request that the Federal Communications Commission move expeditiously to ensure that sufficient satellite capacity is available in the 2 GHz Mobile Satellite Service (MSS) band to support the requirements of America's first responders. The assignment of the entire band to the existing MSS licensees will ensure that Americans and emergency responders have access to hybrid satellite/terrestrial systems that will provide ubiquitous, reliable and interoperable high-speed data and voice services throughout America.

ASA is a bi-partisan organization of Lieutenant Governors and state-appointed delegates. It was formed to promote a state-based perspective in federal aerospace policy development and support aerospace initiatives that enhance student/teacher education outreach and economic development opportunities.

One of the lessons we have learned through our recent national disasters is that we must have reliable communications in times of crisis. Satellites are a big part of the answer. Unfortunately, because of their expense, few emergency management agencies have been able to afford them for primary communications during a crisis.

However, the 2 GHz licensees are constructing satellite systems with an ancillary terrestrial component to address this issue. By utilizing a terrestrial component, these satellite systems are able to capture the economies of scale for equipment manufacture that will result in chip sets and handsets that are priced competitively with today's terrestrial equipment. Further, by having an integrated satellite-terrestrial end-user device, the handset will be able to switch seamlessly and transparently between the terrestrial and satellite network. Most importantly, to support the advanced applications that are being developed today for emergency response and homeland security, the 2 GHz systems must be given sufficient capacity to support them.

It is essential that we have a unified vision of how to ensure reliable communications during emergencies and for homeland security. Our governments should encourage private

Chairman Kevin Martin
October 13, 2005
Page 2

investment in new communications technologies, especially next generation satellite systems, to ensure that we have the communications tools available to support public safety. Government can also expedite these new technologies by ensuring that they have access to sufficient resources to deliver services that Americans require.

The FCC has the ability to assign the full compliment of spectrum in the 2 GHz band to existing licensees to provide sufficient capacity for emergency communications. Assigning any less spectrum will jeopardize the ability of these systems to support the critical next generation communications applications that are currently being developed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Loren Leman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Loren Leman, Chairman
Aerospace States Association
Lieutenant Governor, Alaska



JOE A. MARTINEZ
CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DISTRICT 11

October 11, 2005

Honorable Kevin Martin
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: IB Docket No. 05-221

Dear Chairman Martin:

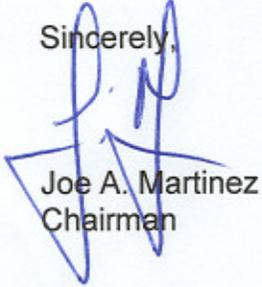
Hurricane Katrina has demonstrated that our nation's Homeland security communications systems are susceptible to widespread failure in light of natural and other disasters. In every case of widespread failure of our land-based communications system, another form of communications is always available: satellite. However, very expensive user handsets and high service fees make today's satellite systems prohibitively costly for public safety agencies.

As the Chairman of Miami-Dade County, I think it is imperative that we facilitate a cost-effective, secure, widespread, and reliable public safety network. In order to overcome the high cost typically associated with mobile satellite systems, we are looking forward to the availability of advanced hybrid satellite/terrestrial systems. A hybrid network will allow a cell phone user to use a cell phone on existing cell towers or to use a satellite network if the cell phone network is inoperative.

Current licensees will be able to deliver both affordable commercial mobile satellite service ("MSS") to millions of Americans in rural and underserved areas, and offer a "back-up" communications system should our current Homeland Security system fail. However, in order to provide both commercial service and act as a secondary communications system in the event of a communications failure, I believe current licensees must be given adequate bandwidth.

As you move forward with the distribution of spectrum, I urge the Commission to allocate 20 MHz of 2 GHz MSS spectrum on a *pro rata* basis to TMI/TerreStar Networks Inc., and ICO Satellite Services respectively. This communications solution would help to provide the last line of defense for any emergencies that could arise, natural or otherwise, in a cost effective and secure manner.

Sincerely,



Joe A. Martinez
Chairman

Cc: Commissioner Abernathy
Commissioner Adelstein
Commissioner Copps
Secretary of the Commission



SAVANNAH CHATHAM METROPOLITAN POLICE

Chief Dan Flynn

October 5, 2005

Honorable Kevin Martin, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

IB Docket No. 05-221

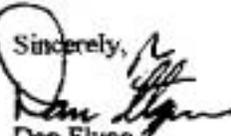
Dear Chairman Martin:

Hurricane Katrina has demonstrated that our nation's Homeland security communications systems are susceptible to widespread failure in light of natural disasters. In every case of widespread failure of our land-based communications system, another form of communications is always available: satellite. However, very expensive user handsets and high service fees make today's satellite systems prohibitively costly for public safety agencies.

In my capacity as Chief of Police of the Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Department, I think it is imperative that we facilitate a cost-effective, secure, widespread, and reliable public safety network. In order to overcome the high cost typically associated with mobile satellite systems, we are looking forward to the availability of advanced hybrid satellite/terrestrial systems. A hybrid network will allow a cell phone user to use a cell phone on existing cell towers or to use a satellite network if the cell phone network is inoperative.

Current licensees will be able to deliver both commercial mobile satellite service ("MSS") to millions of Americans in rural and underserved areas, and offer a "back-up" communications system should our current communication system fail. However, in order to provide both commercial service and act as a secondary communications system in the event of a communications failure, current licensees must be given adequate bandwidth.

As you move forward with the distribution of spectrum, I urge the Commission to allocate 20 MHz of 2 GHz MSS spectrum on a *pro rata* basis to TML/TerreStar Networks Inc., and ICO Satellite Services respectively. This communications solution would help to provide the last line of defense for any emergencies that could arise, natural or otherwise, in a cost effective and secure manner.

Sincerely,

Dan Flynn
Chief of Police

Cc: Commissioner Abernathy
Commissioner Adelstein
Commissioner Copps
Secretary of the Commission



Alaska Marine Safety Education Association

2924 Halibut Point Road, Sitka, Alaska 99835
907-747-3287 voice, 907-747-3259 fax, director@amsea.org

October 5, 2005

The Honorable Kevin Martin
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

IB Docket No. 05-221

Dear Chairman Martin:

AMSEA has had an over 20 year interest in furthering the safety of mariners and this issue is of interest to us. The coastline of Alaska is longer than that of the contiguous 48 states. Cell phone accessibility is very limited and cell towers can be blocked by mountains just a few miles away. The marine operators that use VHF radio bands have been removed from service. There is no way for most boaters and fishermen to access normal lines of communication to the rest of the world or even their home communities, from their boats just a few miles from land in Alaska. With the FCC priority to accelerate developing broadband access in America, we strongly urge that the Commission put a strong emphasis on solutions that will support broadband coverage in rural parts of the U.S. such as Alaska that have inadequate broadband coverage. We believe that the satellite industry, because of its ability to provide service everywhere, is an obvious solution to bringing better safety and business communications to the important maritime users of Alaska.

Technology which exists which will allow cell phones to receive a signal from either a cell tower or a satellite would obviously be of use in the safety and commerce of the Alaska maritime environment. Present high cost typically associated with mobile satellite systems is an obstacle, and we encourage the availability of advanced hybrid satellite/terrestrial systems. A hybrid network will allow a cell phone user to use a cell phone on existing cell towers or to use a satellite network if the cell phone network is inoperative. This would cover widely underserved areas, such as in found in Alaska as well as elsewhere in the nation.

I understand that the Commission will soon determine whether to divide the remaining one-third of the 2 GHz mobile satellite service ("MSS") spectrum between TMI/TerreStar Networks Inc. ("TerreStar") and ICO Satellite Services ("ICO") or take another approach.

I strongly urge the FCC to move expeditiously on this item and support the allocation of this spectrum on a "2x10" basis to these two satellite operators that have already demonstrated a commitment to compete and offer these services. Thank you for your consideration of my views.

Sincerely,

Jerry Dzugan
Executive Director



AN ASSOCIATION OF
MONTANA HEALTH
CARE PROVIDERS

October 5, 2005

Officers

Chairman
Kent Burgess
Billings

Chairman-Elect
Scott Duke
Glendive

*Immediate Past
Chairman*
John Bartos
Hamilton

Treasurer
Michelle Hood
Billings

President
James F. Ahrens
Helena

Trustees

Velinda Stevens
Kalispell

Jay Pottenger
Fort Benton

Larry Putnam
Malta

James Kiser
Butte

Tim Russell
Columbus

Nancy Hansen
Chinook

Kerry Beasley
Libby

Margaret Norgaard
Wolf Point

Shane Roberts
Ronan

Nicholas J. Wolter, MD
Billings

Kelley Evans
Red Lodge

The Honorable Kevin Martin
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Martin:

I understand the FCC will soon decide how to allocate the remaining third of the 2GHz mobile satellite service spectrum. This issue is extremely important to the members of the association I represent.

MHA's members provide hospital, nursing home, home health and physician services throughout Montana. All but three of our state's counties are classified as rural, and most have a population density of six persons or fewer.

In this environment, communications systems – especially those for first responders and other emergency medical services providers – are critically important. In a number of counties, cell phone service is limited due to the distance between transmitting towers or mountains. The inability to communicate in these areas can be life-threatening.

I understand technology exists that will allow cell phones to receive a signal from either a cell tower or a satellite. Such technology would assure that virtually every location in the U.S. will receive broadband access – a consideration that is especially important to first responders in our rural and frontier areas.

For this reason, I urge the Commission to move expeditiously to allocate the 20MHz of spectrum to TMI/TerreStar Networks Inc and ICO Satellite Services.

I understand that these two satellite operators have already demonstrated a commitment to compete and offer these services.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

James F. Ahrens
President

1720 Ninth Avenue P.O. Box 5119
Helena, Montana 59604-5119
tel: 406-442-1911 fax: 443-3894
www.mha.org

BROWNLEE MANAGEMENT, INC.

2112 MAIN STREET, BOX 480

EMMETSBURG, IA 50536

712-852-4617

FAX 712-852-3406

October 4, 2005

The Honorable Kevin Martin
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

IB Docket No. 05-221

Dear Chairman Martin:

It has come to my attention that the FCC has set as one of its highest priorities efforts to accelerate developing broadband access in America. I strongly urge that the Commission put a strong emphasis on solutions that will support broadband coverage in rural parts of America. Despite significant broadband coverage throughout the U.S., many areas still have inadequate coverage. I believe that the satellite industry, because of its ability to provide service everywhere, is one sector which can play a vital role in bringing broadband to millions more Americans. As a farmer and farm manager of 30,000 acres scattered in Iowa and Minnesota, I can assure you of the need of such a system.

I understand technology exists which will allow cell phones to receive a signal from either a cell tower or a satellite. In order to overcome the high cost typically associated with mobile satellite systems, we are looking forward to the availability of advanced hybrid satellite/terrestrial systems. A hybrid network will allow a cell phone user to use a cell phone on existing cell towers or to use a satellite network if the cell phone network is inoperative. This assures virtually every locate in the U.S. will receive broadband access, especially rural and underserved areas.

Not only could this approach allow for communications to and from virtually any outdoor location, it could also allow first responders to have an affordable, ubiquitous, redundant and interoperable communications system so crucial to homeland security.

I understand that the Commission will soon determine whether to divide the remaining one-third of the 2 GHz mobile satellite service ("MSS") spectrum between TMI/TerreStar Networks Inc. ("TerreStar") and ICO Satellite Services ("ICO") or take another approach.

I strongly urge the FCC to move expeditiously on this item and support the allocation of this spectrum on a "2x10" basis to these two satellite operators that have already demonstrated a commitment to compete and offer these services. Thank you for your consideration of my views.

Sincerely,



Craig S. Brownlee, President
Brownlee Management, Inc.

CSB/bm

State Representative
CORY GARDNER
POB 86
Yuma, CO 80759
Home: 970-453-5298
Capitol: 303-866-2906
E-mail: cory.gardner.house@state.co.us



Committee Membership:
Agriculture, Livestock & Natural Resources
Judiciary

COLORADO
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
State Capitol
Denver
80203

September 30, 2005

The Honorable Kevin Martin
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

IB Docket No. 05-221

Dear Chairman Martin:

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has set as one of its highest priorities efforts to accelerate developing broadband access across America. As a legislator from the high plains of Colorado, I strongly urge that the Commission put a strong emphasis on solutions that will support broadband coverage in rural parts of America. Despite significant broadband coverage throughout the U.S., many rural areas still have inadequate coverage. I believe that the satellite industry, because of its ability to provide service everywhere, is one sector which can play a vital role in bringing broadband to millions more Americans.

Technology exists that will allow a cell phone to receive a signal from either a cell tower or a satellite. Due to the high cost typically associated with mobile satellite systems, we are looking forward to the availability of advanced hybrid satellite/terrestrial systems. A hybrid network will allow a cell phone user to use a cell phone on existing cell towers or to use a satellite network if the cell phone network is inoperative. This assures virtually every location in the U.S. will receive broadband access, especially rural and underserved areas.

Not only could this approach allow for communications to and from virtually any outdoor location, it could also allow first responders to have an affordable, ubiquitous, redundant and interoperable communications system so crucial to homeland security.

I understand that the Commission will soon determine whether to divide the remaining one-third of the 2 GHz mobile satellite service ("MSS") spectrum between TMI/TerreStar Networks Inc. ("TerreStar") and ICO Satellite Services ("ICO") or take another approach.

The Honorable Kevin Martin
September 30, 2005
Page 2 of 2

I strongly urge the FCC to move expeditiously on this item and to strongly consider spectrum on a "2x10" basis to the satellite operators that have already demonstrated a commitment to compete and offer these services. Thank you for your consideration of my views.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cory Gardner", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Cory Gardner
State Representative
House District 63

Cc: Commissioner Kathleen Q Abernathy
Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein
Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Secretary of the Commission



*Office of the Sheriff
Norfolk Sheriff's Office
Sheriff Robert J. McCabe*



September 30, 2005

Honorable Kevin Martin
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: IB Docket No. 05-221

Dear Chairman Martin:

Hurricanes Katrina and Rita and other disasters have demonstrated that our communications systems are susceptible to widespread failure. In cases where land-based communications system failed satellite-based communication systems have proven reliable. However, very expensive user handsets and high service fees make today's satellite systems prohibitively costly for public safety agencies and other first responders.

As Sheriff of the City of Norfolk, Virginia – a city negatively impacted by Hurricane Isabel in 2003 -- I think it is imperative that we have access to a commercial-based, cost-effective and reliable back-up to our existing public safety communications network. In order to overcome the high cost typically associated with mobile satellite systems, we are looking forward to the availability of commercially-provided advanced hybrid satellite/terrestrial systems. A hybrid network will allow a cell phone user to use a cell phone on existing cell towers or to use a satellite network if the cell phone network is inoperative.

In order to provide both commercial service and a surge capacity for homeland security in the event of a land-based communications failure, mobile satellite system licensees must have a robust capability.

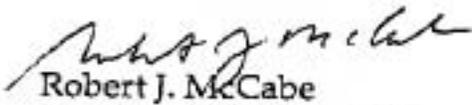


811 E. City Hall Avenue • Norfolk, VA 23510
Phone (757) 664-4700
norfolksheriffsoffice.com



As the FCC moves forward with the redistribution of spectrum, I urge the Commission to redistribute the remaining unassigned 2 GHz MSS spectrum on a *pro rata* basis to TMI Communications and Company Limited Partnership, which is affiliated with TerreStar Networks Inc., and ICO Global Communications (Holdings) on a "2x10" basis. This communications solution would provide the last line of defense for any emergencies that may arise, natural or otherwise, in a cost effective and secure manner. I request that the FCC move forward quickly so that public safety agencies have access to these advanced hybrid satellite/terrestrial systems as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



Robert J. McCabe
Sheriff/High Constable
City of Norfolk, Virginia

Cc: Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy
Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein
Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Secretary of the Commission



City of Virginia Beach

VBgov.com

DEPARTMENT OF POLICE
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE
(757) 427-4141
FAX (757) 427-9103

MUNICIPAL CENTER
BUILDING 11
2000 PRINCESS ANNE ROAD
VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA 23461

September 29, 2005

COPY

The Honorable Kevin Martin
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: IB Docket No. 05-221

Dear Chairman Martin:

Hurricane Katrina and other disasters have demonstrated that our nation's telecommunications systems are susceptible to widespread failure. In cases of widespread failure of our land-based communications system, another form of communication is available: satellite. However, very expensive user handsets and high service fees make today's satellite systems prohibitively costly for public safety agencies and other first responders.

As Chief of Police for the City of Virginia Beach, Virginia's most populous city, I think it is imperative that we have access to a cost-effective and reliable back-up to our existing public safety network. In order to overcome the high cost typically associated with mobile satellite systems, we are looking forward to the availability of commercially-provided advanced hybrid satellite/terrestrial systems. A hybrid network will allow a cell phone user to use a cell phone on existing cell towers or to use a satellite network if the cell phone network is inoperative.

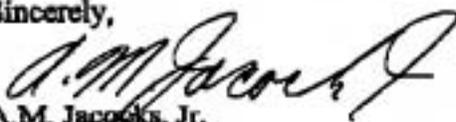
In order to provide both commercial service and a secondary communications system in the event of a land-based communications failure, licensees must have a robust capability.

As the FCC moves forward with the redistribution of spectrum, I urge the Commission to redistribute the remaining unassigned 2 GHz MSS spectrum on a *pro rata* basis to the two license holders who are working diligently to fulfill the terms of their FCC license agreements on a "2x10" basis. This communications solution would help to provide the last line of defense for any emergencies that could arise, natural or otherwise, in a cost effective and secure manner.

The Honorable Kevin Martin
RE: IB Docket No. 05-221
September 29, 2005
Page Two

The FCC should move forward quickly so that public safety has access to these advanced satellite systems as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



A.M. Jacobs, Jr.
Chief of Police

AMJjr:mjw

cc: Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy
Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein
Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Secretary of the Commission



BOB DYER
COUNCILMAN - DISTRICT 1 - CENTERVILLE

PHONE: (757) 467-3130
CELL: (757) 749-4658
BDYER@VIRGOV.COM

City of Virginia Beach

September 27, 2005

Honorable Kevin Martin, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: IB DOCKET No. 05-221

Dear Chairman Martin:

Hurricane Katrina and other disasters have demonstrated that our nation's telecommunications systems are susceptible to widespread failure. In cases of widespread failure of our land-based communications system, another form of communication is available: satellite. However, very expensive user handsets and high service fees make today's satellite systems prohibitively costly for public safety agencies and other first responders.

As a member of the City Council for the City of Virginia Beach, Virginia's most populous city, I think it is imperative that we have access to a cost-effective and reliable back-up to our existing public safety network. In order to overcome the high cost typically associated with mobile satellite systems, we are looking forward to the availability of commercially provided advanced hybrid satellite/terrestrial systems. A hybrid network will allow a cell phone user to use a cell phone on existing cell towers or to use a satellite network if the cell phone network is inoperative.

In order to provide both commercial service and a secondary communications system in the event of a land-based communications failure, licensees must have a robust capability.

As the FCC moves forward with the redistribution of spectrum, I urge the Commission to redistribute the remaining unassigned 2 GHz MSS spectrum on a *pro rata* basis to TMI Communications and Company Limited Partnership, which is affiliated with TerreStar

Networks Inc., and ICO Global Communications (Holdings) on a "2x10" basis. This communications solution would help to provide the last line of defense for any emergencies that could arise, natural or otherwise, in a cost effective and secure manner. The FCC should move forward quickly so that public safety has access to these advanced satellite systems as soon as possible.

Your attention to this matter is more than appreciated.

Sincerely,



Bob Dyer
Virginia Beach City Council
District 1 - Centerville

Cc: Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy
Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein
Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Secretary of the Commission

Town of Windermere

P. O. Drawer 669 Windermere, FL 34786
Office: (407) 876-2563 Fax: (407) 876-0103

Mayor
GARY BRUHN



Town Manager
CECILIA BERNIER

Clerk
DOROTHY BURKHALTER

9/26/2005

Honorable Kevin Martin
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

IB Docket No. 05-221

Dear Chairman Martin:

Hurricane Katrina has demonstrated that our nation's Homeland security communications systems are susceptible to widespread failure in light of natural and other disasters. In every case of widespread failure of our land-based communications system, another form of communications is always available: satellite. However, very expensive user handsets and high service fees make today's satellite systems prohibitively costly for public safety agencies.

As Town Manager and Director for Emergency Response for the Town of Windermere, FL., I think it is imperative that we facilitate a cost-effective, secure, widespread, and reliable public safety network. In order to overcome the high cost typically associated with mobile satellite systems, we are looking forward to the availability of advanced hybrid satellite/terrestrial systems. A hybrid network will allow a cell phone user to use a cell phone on existing cell towers or to use a satellite network if the cell phone network is inoperative.

Current licensees will be able to deliver both affordable commercial mobile satellite service ("MSS") to millions of Americans in rural and underserved areas, and offer a "back-up" communications system should our current Homeland Security system fail. However, in order to provide both commercial service and act as a secondary communications system in the event of a communications failure, I believe current licensees must be given adequate bandwidth.

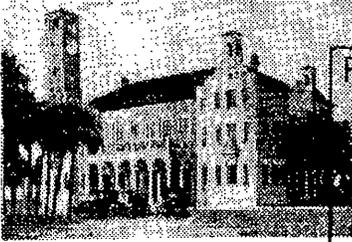
As you move forward with the redistribution of spectrum, I urge the Commission to redistribute the remaining unassigned 2 GHz MSS spectrum on a *pro rata* basis to TMI/TerreStar Networks Inc., and ICO Satellite Services on a "2x10" basis. This communications solution would help to provide the last line of defense for any emergencies that could arise, natural or otherwise, in a cost effective and secure manner.

Sincerely,



Cecilia Bernier
Town Manager

Cc: Commissioner Abernathy
Commissioner Adelstein
Commissioner Copps
Secretary of the Commission



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FCC - MAILROOM

HENDRY COUNTY

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

P.O. BOX 2340
LABELLE, FLORIDA 33975-2340

LESTER B. BAIRD, SR.
County Administrator

BARBARA BUTLER
Clerk

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

September 26, 2005
2005-351
863-675-5220

Honorable Kevin Martin
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

IB Docket No. 05-221

Dear Chairman Martin:

Hurricane Katrina has demonstrated that our nation's Homeland security communications systems are susceptible to widespread failure in light of natural and other disasters. In every case of widespread failure of our land-based communications system, another form of communications is always available: satellite. However, very expensive user handsets and high service fees make today's satellite systems prohibitively costly for public safety agencies.

As County Administrator, I think it is imperative that we facilitate a cost-effective, secure, widespread, and reliable public safety network. In order to overcome the high cost typically associated with mobile satellite systems, we are looking forward to the availability of advanced hybrid satellite/terrestrial systems. A hybrid network will allow a cell phone user to use a cell phone on existing cell towers or to use a satellite network if the cell phone network is inoperative.

Current licensees will be able to deliver both affordable commercial mobile satellite service ("MSS") to millions of Americans in rural and underserved areas, and offer a "back-up" communications system should our current Homeland Security system fail. However, in order to provide both commercial service and act as a secondary communications system in the event of a communications failure, I believe current licensees must be given adequate bandwidth.

No. of Copies rec'd _____ 0
List A B C D E

JANET B. TAYLOR
District 1

DARRELL R. HARRIS
District 2

W.T. "BILL" MADDOX
District 3

KEVIN S. MCCARTHY
District 4

W.C. "BO" PELHAM, JR.
District 5

Regular Board Meetings: 2nd and 4th Tuesday - 6:30 p.m.



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

- Administration
- Bureau of Motor Vehicles
- Emergency Management Agency
- Emergency Medical Services Division
- Office of Criminal Justice Services
- Ohio Homeland Security
- Ohio Investigative Unit
- Ohio State Highway Patrol

Bob Taft, Governor

Kenneth L. Morckel
Director

1970 West Broad Street
P.O. Box 182081
Columbus, Ohio 43218-2081
(614) 466-2550
www.publicsafety.ohio.gov

September 16, 2005

FCC Chairman Kevin Martin
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Martin:

I am writing on behalf of the Ohio Department of Public Safety, Divisions of Homeland Security, Emergency Management and State Highway Patrol to address an item on the Commission's agenda that could considerably advance public safety interests. Let me first congratulate you on your demonstrated commitment to public safety as evidenced by your recent E-911 order – your signal that public safety is of paramount importance is significantly appreciated in our community.

Fortunately, we understand that you may have another opportunity to advance public safety interests. Specifically, we understand that the Commission is determining whether to divide the remaining one-third of the 2 GHz mobile satellite service (MSS) spectrum between two remaining satellite operators authorized to provide MSS in 2 GHz band; ICO Satellite Services (ICO) and TMI Communications and Company Limited Partnership (TMI). We strongly support this outcome for several reasons that are important to the public safety community which we represent.

First responders and law enforcement officials are in desperate need of affordable, ubiquitous, redundant and interoperable communications systems. Fortunately, there exists a technological option that offers this promise – the use of satellite spectrum along with ancillary terrestrial capacity to offer a full range of communications services. However, providers in this space require sufficient spectrum to attract the necessary investment to develop and deploy powerful satellites while also offering affordable handsets due to scope and scale. Accordingly, if the Commission has an opportunity to allocate the remaining S-band spectrum to the entities that have already demonstrated a commitment to compete and offer these services, it should do so as soon as possible.

Rural areas in particular would benefit greatly from this result as coverage in remote regions would be enhanced while the cost of handsets would contemporaneously come down. Most importantly, the first responder community would have available a redundant communications network which would be protected should terrestrial wireless services fail during a terrorist event or natural disaster.

We strongly urge you to move expeditiously on the pending item referenced above. We thank you for your consideration of our views and we commend you again for your demonstrated commitment to public safety.

Sincerely,

Kenneth L. Morckel, Director
Ohio Department of Public Safety

Mission Statement

"to save lives, reduce injuries and economic loss, to administer Ohio's motor vehicle laws and to preserve the safety and well being of all citizens with the most cost-effective and service-oriented methods available."

September 26, 2005

Page 2

As you move forward with the redistribution of spectrum, I urge the Commission to redistribute the remaining unassigned 2 GHz MSS spectrum on a *pro rata* basis to TMI/TerreStar Networks Inc., and ICO Satellite Services on a "2x10" basis. This communications solution would help to provide the last line of defense for any emergencies that could arise, natural or otherwise, in a cost effective and secure manner.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lester B. Baird Sr". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "L".

Lester B. Baird, Sr.
County Administrator

cc: Commissioner Abernathy
Commissioner Adelstein
Commissioner Copps
Secretary of the Commission



M A R Y L A N D
TROOPERS
A S S O C I A T I O N



INCORPORATED 1979
September 15, 2005

Honorable Kevin Martin
Chairman, Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

IB Docket No. 05-221

Dear Chairman Martin:

Hurricane Katrina has demonstrated that our nation's Homeland security communications systems are susceptible to widespread failure in light of natural and other disasters. In every case of widespread failure of our land-based communications system, another form of communications is always available: satellite. However, very expensive user handsets and high service fees make today's satellite systems prohibitively costly for public safety agencies.

In my capacity as Executive Director of the Maryland Troopers Association, Inc., I think it is imperative that we facilitate a cost-effective, secure, widespread, and reliable public safety network. In order to overcome the high cost typically associated with mobile satellite systems, we are looking forward to the availability of advanced integrated satellite/terrestrial systems. An integrated network will allow a cell phone user to use a cell phone on existing cell towers or to use a satellite network if the cell phone network is inoperative.

Current licensees will be able to deliver both affordable commercial mobile satellite service ("MSS") to millions of Americans in rural and under served areas, and offer a "back-up" communications system should our current Homeland Security system fail. However, in order to provide both commercial service and act as a secondary communications system in the event of a communications failure, I believe current licensees must be given adequate bandwidth.

As you move forward with the distribution of spectrum, I urge the Commission to allocate 20 MHz of 2 GHz MSS spectrum on a pro rata basis to TMI/TerreStar Networks Inc., and ICO Satellite Services respectively. This communications solution would help to provide the last line of defense for any emergencies that could arise, natural or otherwise, in a cost effective and secure manner.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Devers
Executive Director

cc: Commissioner Abernathy
Commissioner Adelstein
Commissioner Copps
Secretary of the Commission

MEMBER OF NATIONAL TROOPERS COALITION

1300 REISTERSTOWN ROAD, PIKESVILLE, MARYLAND 21208 (410) 653-3885 FAX (410) 653-0929 1-800-TROOPER
www.mdtroopers.org • E-mail: troopers@erols.com



Police Department

City of Baton Rouge
704 Mayflower Street
Post Office Box 2406
Baton Rouge, Louisiana
70821

225/389-3800

Jeff LeDuff
Chief of Police

September 15, 2005

Honorable Kevin Martin
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

IB Docket No. 05-221

Dear Chairman Martin:

Hurricane Katrina has demonstrated that our public safety communications systems are susceptible to widespread failure. In every case of widespread failure of our land-based communications system, another form of communications is always available: satellite. However, very expensive user handsets and high service fees make today's satellite systems prohibitively costly for public safety agencies. Following Hurricane Katrina several private companies were in the Gulf Coast area using satellite phones due to outages of land-based communications. This caused a saturation of available satellite signals making the system nearly unusable.

In my capacity as Chief of Police, I think it is imperative that we facilitate a cost-effective, secure, widespread, and reliable public safety network. In order to overcome the high cost typically associated with mobile satellite systems, we are looking forward to the availability of advanced integrated satellite/terrestrial systems. A hybrid network will allow a cell phone user to use a cell phone on existing cell towers or to use a satellite network if the cell phone network is inoperative.

Hurricane Katrina has taught public safety that without adequate and reliable communications, rumors, chaos and confusion will rule. Life and death decisions have to be made based on reliable (and confirmable) information. Without an adequate and functioning communications system in a disaster, mitigation and recovery is hampered and can be a major contributing factor to loss of life and property.

As you move forward with the distribution of spectrum, I urge the Commission to allocate 20 MHz of 2 GHz MSS spectrum on a *pro rata* basis to TMI/TerreStar Networks Inc., and ICO Satellite Services respectively. This communications solution would have helped to provide the defense needed during Hurricane Katrina and could be the last line of defense for any emergencies that could arise, natural or otherwise, in a cost effective and secure manner.

Sincerely,

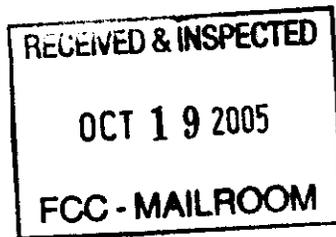
A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "J. LeDuff", written over a horizontal line.

Jeff LeDuff

Cc: Commissioner Abernathy
Commissioner Adelstein
Commissioner Copps
Secretary of the Commission



Alaska Association of Chiefs of Police



DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

September 15, 2005

Honorable Kevin Martin
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

IB Docket No. 05-221

Dear Chairman Martin:

Hurricane Katrina has demonstrated that our nation's Homeland security communications systems are susceptible to widespread failure in light of natural and other disasters. In every case of widespread failure of our land-based communications system, another form of communications is always available: satellite. However, very expensive user handsets and high service fees make today's satellite systems prohibitively costly for public safety agencies.

In my capacity as President of the Alaska Association of Chiefs of Police, I think it is imperative that we facilitate a cost-effective, secure, widespread, and reliable public safety network. In order to overcome the high cost typically associated with mobile satellite systems, we are looking forward to the availability of advanced hybrid satellite/terrestrial systems. A hybrid network will allow a cell phone user to use a cell phone on existing cell towers or to use a satellite network if the cell phone network is inoperative.

Current licensees will be able to deliver both affordable commercial mobile satellite service ("MSS") to millions of Americans in rural and underserved areas, and offer a "back-up" communications system should our current Homeland Security system fail. However, in order to provide both commercial service and act as a secondary communications system in the event of a communications failure, I believe current licensees must be given adequate bandwidth.

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As you move forward with the distribution of spectrum, I urge the Commission to allocate 20 MHz of 2 GHz MSS spectrum on a *pro rata* basis to TMI/TerreStar Networks Inc., and ICO Satellite Services respectively. This communications solution would help to provide the last line of defense for any emergencies that could arise, natural or otherwise, in a cost effective and secure manner.

Sincerely,



Chief Thomas Clemons
President
Alaska Association of Chiefs of Police

Cc: Commissioner Abernathy
Commissioner Adelstein
Commissioner Copps
Secretary of the Commission



JANET NAPOLITANO
GOVERNOR

STATE OF ARIZONA
Office of Homeland Security
1700 W. WASHINGTON STREET
PHOENIX, AZ 85007
(602) 542-7030 Facsimile: (602) 364-1521



FRANK F. NAVARRETE
DIRECTOR

August 19, 2005

FCC Chairman Kevin Martin
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Martin:

I am writing on behalf of Suzanne Mencer to address an item on the Commission's agenda that could considerably advance public safety interests. Let me first congratulate you on your demonstrated commitment to public safety as evidenced by your recent E-911 order – your signal that public safety is of paramount importance is significantly appreciated in our community

Fortunately, we understand that you may have another opportunity to advance public safety interests. Specifically, we understand that the Commission is determining whether to divide the remaining one-third of the two GHz mobile satellite service (MSS) spectrum between two remaining satellite operators authorized to provide MSS in two GHz bands; ICO Satellite Services (ICO) and TMI Communications and Company Limited Partnership (TMI). We strongly support this outcome for several reasons that are important to the public safety community which we represent.

First responders and law enforcement officials are in desperate need of affordable, ubiquitous, redundant, and interoperable communications systems. Fortunately, there exists a technological option that offers this promise – the use of satellite spectrum along with ancillary terrestrial capacity to offer a full range of communications services. However, providers in this space require sufficient spectrum to attract the necessary investment to develop and deploy powerful satellites while also offering affordable handsets due to scope and scale. Accordingly, if the Commission has an opportunity to allocate the remaining S band spectrum to the two entities that have already demonstrated a commitment to compete and offer these services, it should do so as soon as possible.

Rural areas in particular would benefit greatly from this result, as coverage in remote regions would be enhanced while the cost of handsets would contemporaneously come down. Most importantly, the first responder community would have available a redundant communications network which would be protected should terrestrial wireless services fail during a terrorist event or natural disaster.

Chairman Martin
August 19, 2005
Page Two

We strongly urge you to move expeditiously on the pending item referenced above. We thank you for your consideration of our views, and we commend you again for your demonstrated commitment to public safety.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frank F. Navarrete", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Frank F. Navarrete, Director
Office of Homeland Security

FFN/sm



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE
MAJOR CITIES CHIEFS ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION
MAJOR COUNTY SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION

August 15, 2005

Chairman Kevin Martin
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St. S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: IB Docket 05-221

Dear Chairman Martin:

We are writing on behalf of the IACP, MCC, NSA, and MCSA to address an item on the Commission's agenda regarding mobile satellite services.

Specifically, we understand that the Commission is determining whether to divide the remaining one-third of the 2 GHz mobile satellite service (MSS) spectrum between two remaining satellite operators authorized to provide MSS in the 2 GHz band; ICO Satellite Services (ICO) and TMI Communications and Company Limited Partnership (TMI).

As we understand it, this outcome could provide some benefits for public safety, to the extent that these providers are able to provide integrated satellite and terrestrial services for future public safety communications.

Therefore, we recommend that the Commission give consideration to the possible public safety benefits of this proposal.

Respectfully,

Chief Joseph G. Estey, President
International Association of Chiefs of Police

Sheriff James A. Karnes, President
Major County Sheriffs' Association

Chief Harold L. Hurt, President
Major Cities Chiefs Association

Sheriff Ted Sexton, President
National Sheriffs' Association

For further information, contact:

Harlin R. McEwen, (607) 257-1522, chiefhrm@leo.gov

Chairman, IACP Communications & Technology Committee; Communications Advisor, MCC, NSA, MCSA



The Honorable Kevin Martin
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

IB Docket No. 05-221

Dear Chairman Martin:

As CEO of the Cedar Rapids Area Association of REALTORS, I want to discuss communications and the lack of consistent cell coverage in the Cedar Rapids area and throughout Iowa. I represent 800 REALTORS in the Cedar Rapids Area and we strongly urge that the Commission put a strong emphasis on solutions that will support broadband coverage in rural parts of America. Despite significant cell coverage, rural and underserved areas still have inadequate coverage.

In order to overcome the high cost typically associated with mobile satellite systems, we are looking forward to the availability of advanced integrated satellite/terrestrial systems. This assures virtually every location in the U.S. will receive broadband access, especially rural and underserved areas. Moreover, this technology would be perfect for REALTORS who constantly use their cell phones for business.

Not only could this approach allow for communications to and from virtually any outdoor location, it could also allow first responders to have an affordable, ubiquitous, redundant and interoperable communications system so crucial to homeland security.

I understand that the Commission will soon determine whether to divide the remaining one-third of the 2 GHz mobile satellite service ("MSS") spectrum between TMI/TerreStar Networks Inc. ("TerreStar") and ICO Satellite Services ("ICO") or take another approach.

I strongly urge the FCC to move expeditiously on this item and support the allocation of this spectrum on a "2x10" basis to these two satellite operators that have already demonstrated a commitment to compete and offer these services. Thank you for your consideration of my views.

Sincerely,

Jay Iverson
CEO



MONTANA ASSOCIATION
OF REALTORS®

REALTOR® *The Voice for Real Estate™ in Montana*

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The Honorable Kevin Martin
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

IB Docket No. 05-221

Dear Chairman Martin:

It has come to my attention that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has set as one of its highest priorities efforts to accelerate developing broadband access in America. In my capacity as President of the Montana Association of REALTORS®, I urge that the FCC place strong emphasis on solutions that will support broadband coverage in rural parts of America. Despite significant broadband coverage throughout the U.S., many areas such as Montana still have inadequate coverage. I believe that the satellite industry, because of its ability to provide service everywhere, is one sector which can play a vital role in bringing broadband to millions more Americans who do not have it.

I understand technology exists which will allow cell phones to receive a signal from either a cell tower or a satellite. In order to overcome the high cost typically associated with mobile satellite systems, we are looking forward to the availability of advanced hybrid satellite/terrestrial systems. A hybrid network will allow a cell phone user to use a cell phone on existing cell towers or to use a satellite network if the cell phone network is inoperative or nonexistent. This assures virtually every location in the U.S. will receive broadband access, especially rural and underserved areas such as Montana. Moreover, this technology would be perfect for REALTORS® who rely heavily on their mobile phones to run their businesses.

I understand that the FCC will soon determine whether to divide the remaining one-third of the 2 GHz mobile satellite service spectrum between TMI/TerreStar Networks Inc. and ICO Satellite Services, or take another approach. I strongly urge the FCC to move expeditiously on this item and support the allocation of this spectrum to these two satellite operators that have already demonstrated a commitment to compete and offer these services.

Thank you for your consideration of my views.

Sincerely,

President

Cc: Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy
Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein
Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Secretary of the Commission Marlene H. Dortch



