

Below is the canned letter from "free the airwaves". It suffices for me to say that I fully support opening the "whitespace" as they call it. I live in a rural area out of town where my only choice is satellite internet, or a terrible 3G connection, and allowing more competition might allow me to finally log onto the interactive online classes the local college offers (I can now, but last time it took 20 minutes to load a chapter test over my ISP, 30 seconds in town).

To the members of the Federal Communications Commission:

I'm writing to urge you to open up currently unused parts of the TV spectrum (the "white spaces") for wireless broadband and other emerging technologies. I applaud the extraordinary steps the Commission has taken to realize the potential of TV white spaces to date, and encourage you to take this next step today.

The potential benefits of freeing up this important public resource, more than three-quarters of which today is unused, are overwhelming.

The white spaces can:

- * Pave the way for universal wireless broadband access;
- * Extend broadband wireless to rural areas that currently aren't connected at all;
- * Enhance the reliability of public safety communications;
- * Enable distance learning for students in remote locations or for whom traditional classroom-based learning is impractical; and,
- * Bring high-speed mobile internet access to every high school and middle school in the country.

Opening up unused TV spectrum might be one of our best remaining chances to address the digital divide by creating affordable and truly universal broadband wireless coverage in the U.S.. I urge you to take this rare opportunity to connect millions more people to the Internet.

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