

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.

My additional comments:

We live North of Hot Springs, NC.

Verizon does not provide DSL in the area, just poor quality voice lines that make for a very slow dial up experience.

Charter doesn't provide cable service here.

We can barely sometimes get Verizon Wireless EVDO Internet access with about \$1000 worth of antenna on the roof, an amplifier, a cellular data card and a wireless router. This comes and goes and barely works sometimes. We pay Verizon Wireless over \$200 per month for voice and data.

US Cellular has a cell site in Hot Springs that we can pick up, but it uses old 1xRTT technology for Internet access. This is barely as good as dialup and often just stops working. This is also at least \$60 per month and a contract with a cell company.

HughesNet and Wild Blue both offer satellite Internet access, but it's slow restrictive, and expensive. Customer support from both companies is terrible. Latency is so bad that VPN connections to the office are abysmally slow.

We don't have any workable solutions out here. We have a business to run from home that doesn't pollute (unless we have to drive into town for decent Internet access) and brings money into this rural community. But it does require good Internet access.

Using the TV spectrum guard bands should work for wireless Internet access. At any rate, we'd rather get our Internet access terrestrially and our TV from satellite.

These are OUR public airwaves, not the television broadcaster's. WE want Internet access. Internet access can be used to broadcast TV, but TV is just one way and cannot help us out with Internet access, all it can do is blast programming at us that we don't even want to watch!

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