

PETE HOEKSTRA

SECOND DISTRICT
MICHIGAN

WORLD WIDE WEB:

<http://hoekstra.house.gov>

111th Congress

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

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EDUCATION AND LABOR

July 29, 2009

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The Hon. Julius Genachowski
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, Southwest
Washington, D.C. 20554-0005

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

In response to concerns raised by public safety agencies that are finding that there is often no direct and reliable means of reaching citizens with emergency information, I am asking for a ruling on PS Docket No. 09-19.

PS Docket No. 09-19 arose out of concerns raised by the American Association of Information Radio Operators' (AAIRO) *Petition for Ruling on Travelers' Information Stations, Provisions of Localized Public Safety and Emergency Information, Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. Section 90.242 and 90.407*. The Petition asks the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to clarify section 90.242(a) 7, to permit "any message concerning the safety of life or protection of property that may affect any traveler or any individual in transit or soon to be in transit, may be transmitted on Travelers Information Stations (TIS), at the sole discretion of officials authorized to operate such stations."

Travelers' Information Stations are essential to many communities for public access to information that can have a direct impact on their health and safety. It is my hope that PS Docket No. 09-19 will be reviewed promptly and a ruling will be forthcoming given the importance of TIS in so many communities.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Pete Hoekstra
Member of Congress

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WASHINGTON OFFICE:
2234 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-4401
FAX: (202) 226-0779

DISTRICT OFFICE—HOLLAND
184 South River Avenue
Holland, Mich. 49423
(616) 395-0030
FAX: (616) 395-0271

DISTRICT OFFICE—MUSKEGON
900 3rd Street, Suite 203
Muskegon, Mich. 49440
(231) 722-8386
FAX: (231) 722-0176

DISTRICT OFFICE—CADILLAC
210-1/2 North Mitchell Street
Cadillac, Mich. 49601
(231) 775-0050
FAX: (231) 775-0298





OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

October 6, 2009

The Honorable Pete Hoekstra
U.S. House of Representatives
2234 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Hoekstra:

Thank you for your July 29, 2009 letter asking for a prompt ruling on PS Docket No. 09-19. That docket was opened in response to a ruling request filed by the American Association of Information Radio Operators (AAIRO) regarding the scope of 47 C.F.R. § 90.242, governing Traveler's Information Stations (TIS).

In addition to AAIRO's petition, two other TIS-related petitions were filed with the Commission – by Highway Information Systems, Inc., and the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) in July 2008 and March 2009, respectively. The Commission placed the AAIRO petition on *Public Notice* for comment on February 13, 2009, along with the Highway Information Systems petition. The AASHTO petition was placed on *Public Notice* on April 23, 2009. The comment period on the most recent petition closed in June 2009. The Commission staff is reviewing the record developed in these proceedings, and it preparing recommendations for disposition.

I appreciate your bringing your interest in this matter to my attention. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julius Genachowski".

Julius Genachowski
Chairman