

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2102

August 19, 2009

The Honorable Julius Genachowski  
Chairman, Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

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Spectrum  
PV  
JG*

Re: Amendment of Parts 2 and 95 of the Commission's Rules to Provide Additional Spectrum for the Medical Device Radiocommunication Service in the 413-457 MHz Band (ET Dkt. No. 09-36; RM-11404)

*1457*

Dear Mr. Chairman,

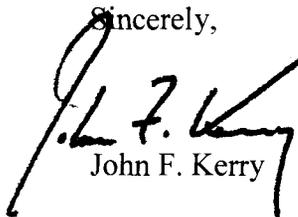
I am writing in support of the Federal Communication Commission's proposal to allocate spectrum in the 413-457 MHz band and to adopt service and technical rules for use by medical micro-power network (MMN) devices.

I understand that the Alfred Mann Foundation - a nonprofit foundation focused on medical research - has made significant progress in developing innovative MMN equipment designed to restore function to paralyzed limbs and organs. This equipment can assist in the medical treatment and care of millions of disabled Americans, including U.S. service men and women who suffered spinal cord, traumatic brain, and other severe injuries during their military service.

As the Commission correctly noted in its notice of proposed rulemaking, MMN devices have the potential to provide a safer, less invasive, and more effective treatment option than other therapeutic approaches to certain injuries. It is my understanding that preliminary tests also show that MMN technology does not interfere with primary spectrum use and can safely and effectively operate as a secondary use.

Without adequate spectrum and service rules to permit MMN use, millions of Americans will be deprived of a safe, convenient, and effective medical treatment for their serious neuromuscular injuries and conditions. I urge the Commission to allocate sufficient spectrum and establish appropriate rules to accommodate MMN operation in the 413-457 MHz band.

Sincerely,

  
John F. Kerry

4 SEP 2009 RCUD



OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

October 6, 2009

The Honorable John F. Kerry  
United States Senate  
218 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Kerry:

Thank you for your letter concerning the Commission's *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM)* that seeks comment on providing spectrum for Medical Micropower Network (MMN) use in the 413-457 MHz band. I appreciate learning of your support for MMN technology and allocating additional spectrum with appropriate rules to accommodate such MMN operations in this frequency band.

As you are aware, this proceeding was initiated in response to a petition for rulemaking filed by the Alfred Mann Foundation (AMF). In its petition, AMF proposes to establish a new wideband MMN service that could afford significant quality of life benefits for persons suffering from neurological disorders as a result of injury or disease. Such new wireless technologies might be very useful, particularly for the treatment and rehabilitation of military personnel returning from Iraq and Afghanistan suffering from spinal cord, traumatic brain, and other severe injuries received during their military service.

Comments on the *NPRM* were due August 11, 2009, with reply comments due September 10, 2009. The Commission will consider the record developed in this proceeding very carefully, including your letter. We are currently taking a hard look at concerns about the compatibility of MMN devices with incumbent operations in portions of this band.

I appreciate your interest in this important matter. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julius Genachowski". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke.

Julius Genachowski  
Chairman