

March 1, 2010

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Robert M. McDowell

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

**Comments on Wireless Microphone Licensing
WT Docket Nos. 08-166, 08-167; ET Docket No. 10-24**

Dear Chairman Genachowski, Commissioner Baker, Commissioner Clyburn, Commissioner Copps, and Commissioner McDowell:

We write to you as both well-established and developing professional recording artists who care deeply about live performance quality and fan satisfaction with our concerts. We understand that the Federal Communications Commission is in the process of developing rules that will determine whether wireless audio that is essential to our live music performances will be safe from interference from new devices. We want to make sure that you are aware of how important live performances are to artists' livelihoods and to millions of fans, and just how critical reliable, interference-free wireless audio is to the continued success of live performances in this country. We urge the Commission to adapt its rules so that touring artists and our technical crews have the opportunity to license our wireless microphones and related equipment. It is imperative to the success of our industry that the audio systems we deploy are protected from devastating interference.

The economics of the music business have radically changed. As CD sales have drastically declined, touring has become most artists' main source of income. Live performances are more important today than ever before, as it is there, at our shows, where we as artists reach out to our respective audiences and connect with them. It is at our concerts where we establish our fan bases, and, if we are lucky, continue those relationships over time. Our common experience as artists, regardless of the genre of music that we perform and where we each may be in our careers, is that performing live is where we each must prove ourselves time and time again throughout our careers.

Clear, consistent sound is an absolutely fundamental requirement of any quality live music performance. Virtually all modern live productions require that significant portions of the audio be delivered wirelessly from voices and instruments, and that the performers be able to monitor the mix via wireless in-ear systems. Most touring acts typically use dozens of wireless microphones, instrument systems and monitors, while sound and lighting crews make extensive use of wireless intercoms and cueing systems. Wireless equipment is an integral part of any soundstage today – with the same products in use in a 60,000-seat stadium as in an intimate 250 -seat live music club.

We understand that the Commission is considering whether it should give users that are *not* producing content for TV broadcast the opportunity to obtain an FCC license that will help protect their wireless microphone systems from interference. We fully support this update, and ask that the Commission make sure that we, as live performing artists, have the opportunity to acquire the wireless microphone licenses necessary to maintain the production values our fans expect. The risk of random interference is one that our industry simply cannot afford.

In sum, our fans spend their hard-earned disposable income to see us perform live -- playing shows that evoke strong, positive and memorable emotional responses. These are experiences that cannot be replicated simply by buying a CD or downloading a song. We strongly support a rule that would enable us as live performing artists to secure a wireless microphone license in order to continue to deliver the quality live performances that American audiences demand and deserve. This decision is not only critical to us as individual performers, but also to American consumers and to the very future of live music performance in the United States.

Sincerely,

3 Doors Down
Alex Band
Alex Greenwald
Alison Krauss
Alison Krauss and Union Station
Alkaline Trio
Alter Bridge
Aly & AJ
Alyssa Bonagura
America (Gerry Beckley and Dewey
Bunnell)
Angela Wood
Ashley Monroe
Aubrey Collins

Augustana
Barenaked Ladies
Barry Bales
Benji Harris
Big & Rich
Billy Ray Cyrus
Black Eyed Peas
Bonnie Raitt
Boston
Breaking Benjamin
Carolina Liar
Cathy Heller
Chris Hennessee
Chris Isaak
Clay Aiken
Clint Black
Collin Brace
Cowboy Troy
Crash Kings
Dan Tyminski
Dashboard Confessional
Dave Matthews
Dave Matthews Band
Dave Mustaine
David Archuleta
David Bryan
David Lee Murphy
David Nail
Dean Workman
Dirty Dozen Brass Band
Disco Biscuits
Dixie Chicks
Don Henley
Drive By Truckers
Earth, Wind & Fire
Elijah Jones (The Constellations)
Face to Face
Ferras
Finch
Frankie Ballard
Fred Mascherino (Terrible Things)
Fred Schneider (the B-52s)
Gavin Rossdale

Glenn Frey
Godsmack
Gomez
Gretchen Wilson
Honeyhoney
Jake Owen
Jakob Dylan
James Bourne
James Kluz (Metalkpretty)
Jared Leto (30 Seconds To Mars)
Jason Aldean
Jedd Hughes
Jennifer Hudson
Jerry Douglas
Jimbeau Hinson
Jimmy Buffett
Joan Osborne
Joe Walsh
John Rich
Jon Bon Jovi
Jordan Hester
Journey
Judson Spence
Julianne Hough
Julie Preotu (Metalkpretty)
Kate Earl
Kate Pierson (the B-52s)
Kelly Sweet
Kenny "Babyface" Edmonds
Kenny Chesney
Kenny G
Kim Tribble
Kix Brooks
Kristy Lee Cook
Leon Lyazidi (Metalkpretty)
Lindsey Buckingham
Liz Berlin (Rusted Root)
Liz McGrath (Miss Derringer)
Loni Rose
Los Lobos
Louise Mandrell
Luke Bryan
Mac Davis

Maroon 5
Mary Wilson
Mason Jennings
Matt Nolen
Matt Scannell (Vertical Horizon)
Meat Loaf
Megadeth
Mel Eubank
Metro Station
Michael Feinstein
Michael Glabicki (Rusted Root)
Michelle Branch
Mike Simmons
Miley Cyrus
Mitzi Dawn
Monique Maffai
Nat and Alex Wolff
Natasha Bedingfield
Nate Fleming
Nate Meng (Metalkpretty)
Nathan Stoops
Neal Evans (of Soulive)
Neil Diamond
O.A.R.
Pat Green
Patrick Norman (Rusted Root)
Patrizio Buanne
Paul Taylor
Peter Cincotti
Peter Frampton
Phantom Planet
Randle Chowning
Randy Owen
Raphael Saadiq
REO Speedwagon
Richard Patrick (Filter)
Richie Sambora
Rick Springfield
Rodney Atkins
Ron Block
Ronnie Dunn
Ryan Cook
Sam Farrar

Sara Bareilles
Sara Evans
Sarah Jarosz
Scorpions
Scott Weiland
Shannon Leto (30 Seconds To Mars)
Shooter Jennings
Spin Doctors
Static-X
Steel Train
Steven Sheehan
Stevie Nicks
Sting
Stone Temple Pilots
Taj Mahal
Taylor Hicks
Terri Clark
The 88
The Bacon Brothers
The Veronicas
The Wallflowers
Tico Torres
Timothy B. Schmit
Tommy Karlas
Tomo Milicevic (30 Seconds To Mars)
Troy Akers
Underoath
Vanessa Carlton
Vanessa Williams
Weezer
Will Harrison