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United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2003

July 16, 2010

07-195
WTB
AWSB

1222

Mr. Michael Perko
Acting Director, Office of Legislative Affairs
Federal Communications Commissions
445 Twelfth Street, SW, Room 8-C445
Washington, D.C. 20554-0001

Dear Mr. Perko:

I am writing to request your consideration of the attached correspondence from Stephanie Kolcz. Please respond directly to Ms. Kolcz and send a copy to Michael Kellermann of my staff. If you have any questions, please call Mr. Kellermann at (202) 224-4654.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Barbara A. Mikulski
United States Senator

BAM:cst
Enclosure

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<FIRST>S[REDACTED]</FIRST>
<LAST>K[REDACTED]</LAST>
<SUFFIX></SUFFIX>
<ADDR1>2408 Forest Edge Court, #303C</ADDR1>
<ADDR2></ADDR2>
<CITY>[REDACTED]</CITY>
<STATE>MD</STATE>
<ZIP>[REDACTED]</ZIP>
<PHONE>407-690-1849</PHONE>
<EMAIL>stephanie.kolcz@gmail.com</EMAIL>
<ISSUE>Telecommunications</ISSUE>
<MSG>RE: Approve use of AWS-3 spectrum for free broadband before September 30, 2010

Stephanie Kolcz
2408 Forest Edge Court, #303C
Odenton, MD 21113-2541

July 2, 2010

The Honorable Barbara A. Mikulski
United States Senate
503 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-2003

Dear Senator Mikulski:

According to President Obama, "It is unacceptable that the United States ranks fifteenth in the world in broadband adoption. Here, in the country that invented the Internet, every child should have the chance to get online, and they'll get that chance when I'm President -- because that's how we'll strengthen America's competitiveness in the world." Over 18 months after President Obama's election, the FCC has yet to take any action to make broadband more affordable to the 100 million Americans that do not have access.

I am therefore writing to ask the FCC to vote before September 30, 2010 to approve use of the AWS-3 spectrum for free broadband services proposed by the County Executives of America ("CEA") and help make President Obama's promise a reality. The CEA project is a public-private partnership of leading counties that will provide free wireless broadband access to nearly 5 million Americans who cannot afford it.

It is crucial that the FCC approve use of the spectrum before September 30, 2010 in order for the CEA project to be eligible for Department of Commerce's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program ("BTOP") Grant. Because the CEA's BTOP application is consistent with the purposes of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, I urge the FCC to make spectrum available and the Department of Commerce to quickly grant the application.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Kolcz
407-690-1849</MSG>
</APP>



Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

August 5, 2010

In Reply Refer to:
PM - 1001222

Ms. Stephanie Kolcz
2408 Forest Edge Court, #303C
Odenton, MD 21113-2541

Dear Ms. Kolcz:

We are writing in response to your letter to Senator Barbara Mikulski expressing your view that the FCC should move promptly to auction the AWS-3 band.

The Commission recognizes that broadband access is absolutely vital as an engine for social and economic opportunity, with the potential to promote job creation, facilitate educational advancements and improve public health and safety services. To this end, the National Broadband Plan, developed in accordance with the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, recommends that the FCC explore a number of ways for addressing affordability barriers to broadband adoption and utilization, including free or very low-cost wireless broadband.

With respect to the AWS-3 spectrum band, the Plan recommends an analysis of the possibility of increasing the amount of spectrum available for wireless broadband by reallocating a portion of the 1.7 GHz band. The Plan also anticipates prompt action upon completion of the analysis. Accordingly, Commission staff is actively working to ensure that the timeframes contemplated in the Plan will be met and we anticipate timely action upon completion of the analysis.

A copy of your letter and this response will be placed in the rulemaking docket (WT Docket No. 07-195) so that it will be included in the record for this proceeding. Please let me know if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Blaise A. Scinto".

Blaise A. Scinto
Chief, Broadband Division
Wireless Telecommunications Bureau

cc: Michael Kellerman
Office of Sen. Barbara Mikulski