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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3816

July 27, 2010

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND COMMERCE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
COMMERCE, TRADE AND CONSUMER
PROTECTION

COMMISSION ON SECURITY AND
COOPERATION IN EUROPE

TOM LANTOS HUMAN RIGHTS
COMMISSION

ASSISTANT REPUBLICAN WHIP

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

1459

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

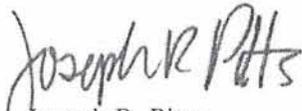
As the co-chairmen of the Congressional Electronic Warfare Working Group, we write to express our views regarding the importance of the electromagnetic spectrum to our national security.

As you know, the spectrum is fundamental to military operations, and spectrum availability is essential to existing and emerging technologies in electronic warfare, network-centric operations, communications systems, satellite resources, and multi-spectral sensors. Further, during military operations, our adversaries seek to use the spectrum to damage our forces. In Iraq and Afghanistan, as one example, our failure to control the spectrum allowed insurgents to inflict casualties using Radio-Controlled Improvised Explosive Devices. It is essential for the Armed Forces to have reliable access to the spectrum so they can conduct realistic training exercises involving electronic warfare and make appropriate long-term investments in spectrum-dependent technologies.

We understand the potential economic value of our nation's spectrum and voted in favor of H.R. 3125, the Radio Spectrum Inventory Act, to require the Federal Communications Commission to conduct a comprehensive spectrum inventory. As you move forward with an inventory of our nation's spectrum and prepare recommendations regarding its potential reallocation, we ask that you take into account the importance of spectrum to military training and operations.

We look forward to working with you, and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our offices.

Sincerely,


Joseph R. Pitts
Member of Congress


Rick Larsen
Member of Congress



OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

October 7, 2010

The Honorable Rick Larsen
U.S. House of Representatives
108 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Larsen:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Commission's efforts toward conducting a comprehensive inventory of the nation's wireless spectrum, and the importance of having electromagnetic spectrum available for military training and operations.

I appreciate the opportunity to learn of your concerns and will take them into account as the Commission proceeds with the spectrum-related recommendations in its implementation of the National Broadband Plan. The Commission is coordinating carefully with the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) on each of the Plan's recommendations implicating spectrum currently allocated to federal use.

Please do not hesitate to let me know if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julius Genachowski", written over a horizontal line.

Julius Genachowski



OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

October 7, 2010

The Honorable Joseph R. Pitts
U.S. House of Representatives
420 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

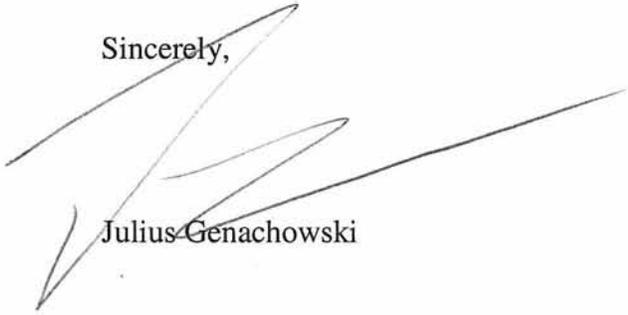
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Julius Genachowski