Kentucky County Attorneys
Association

Bill Patrick
Executive Director

July 26, 2011

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street NW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Comment Deadlines Established Regarding the LightSquared Technical Working Group Report, IB Docket No. 11-109

Dear Ms. Dortch,

As Executive Director of the Kentucky County Attorneys' Association, and a former County Judge Executive of Powell County, Kentucky, a rural Appalachian county, I strongly urge the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to continue working with both the GPS community and LightSquared to design a solution where both GPS and 4G-LTE services can co-exist. Frankly, from what I read and study, the GPS folks need to do more to become a part of the solution in this matter. This path forward is necessary to ensure both the safety and prosperity of America's future. As head of the county government of Powell County, I learned that rural development is often hampered by the lack of infrastructure, and I fear that if the FCC does not work with these companies now, counties like mine could be forever left behind economically.

Rural counties in Kentucky have suffered for decades because they have been cut off and isolated from modern technology. LightSquared, which plans to offer the world's first integrated satellite-terrestrial network, is the type of innovative company that will help America, and in particular , rural America, regain its foothold as an economic leader. By offering 4G-LTE access via wholesale, LightSquared is essentially democratizing wireless broadband in the United States, a move that will help rural areas, which have traditionally been underserved by all electronic communications media. The mobility that electronic technology has brought to us all has largely been denied to rural residents, who have so often been denied broadband internet service, including 3G service. LightSquared's proposal would help put rural America on the same playing field as everyone else by providing the same high speed 4G service to rural residents as urban residents enjoy.

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I represent 112 county prosecutors, who also serve as the elected legal counsel to their own county governments, out of 120 Kentucky counties. Our people deal every day with issues that involve public safety, communication between county agencies and officials and the overall economic development program of their communities. Clearly, not deploying LightSquared's 4G-LTE network would hold back many of our businesses, schools and community development opportunities that our citizens deserve.

Congress and the Administration did the right thing by providing $7.2 billion in Broadband Stimulus grants would expand broadband access and ultimately "increase jobs, spur investments in technology and infrastructure, and provide long-term economic benefits," in communities across America. The LightSquared network would provide many of these same benefits – except that it would not cost the American people a single taxpayer dime to reap those benefits.

As someone who understands the impact of technology on rural America, I urge the FCC to allow both traditional GPS service and LightSquared's service to co-exist in the marketplace.

Very truly yours,

Bill W. Patrick, Executive Director
Kentucky County Attorneys' Association