

Ms. Marlene Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: IB Docket No. 11-109

Dear Ms. Dortch:

I am writing to ask the Commission's assistance in bringing reliable broadband Internet and cell phone coverage to our rural communities.

My legislative district, located in southeastern Minnesota, includes rural portions of Olmsted and Dodge Counties. While the portions of my district adjacent to the City of Rochester have good cell phone coverage, the rest of my district is less fortunate. This creates problems for emergency response personnel and others that must respond swiftly to emergency situations. The lack of wireless broadband internet service limits the types of employers that can locate in my district. This is often a make or break barrier to economic growth and job creation in communities already facing challenges maintaining, let alone, growing their economy.

I understand that the Commission is currently reviewing an application by LightSquared that will address this lack of access. This is good news, since the small rural communities I represent are lagging behind urban centers in technology jobs and good cell coverage.

I also understand that LightSquared has offered to voluntarily restrict the spectrum it will be broadcasting in to minimize possible interference with GPS devices that are receiving signals outside their authorized area. This is expected to address 99.95% of any interference issues caused by GPS receivers that are "squatting" in LightSquared's spectrum. I appreciate this sacrifice by LightSquared and encourage the Commission to move without delay to approve policies that will expand rural access to needed telecommunications services.

Sincerely,

/s/

Representative Duane Quam

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