



November 15, 2011

Admiral James Arden Barnett, Jr.
Chief, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: City of Charlotte, North Carolina
700 MHz Public Safety Broadband Network
Update to Sixth Quarterly Report (October 2011)
PS Docket No. 06-229

Dear Admiral Barnett:

On behalf of the City of Charlotte, North Carolina (Charlotte), this letter provides information updating our October 2011 quarterly report¹ addressing the 700 MHz public safety broadband network deployment project. This update evolves from our discussions with the Commission staff.

Charlotte received a waiver from the Commission to deploy a public safety broadband network in the 700 MHz public safety broadband spectrum. The CharMeck Connect (CharMeck) project is a partnership of the City of Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, and the Towns of Cornelius, Davidson, Huntersville, Matthews, Mint Hill and Pineville. Charlotte is the lead agency.

In our discussions with the Commission staff, we committed to providing additional detail addressing the project's milestones and decision points. These dates center on the core

¹ In the Matter of Requests for Waiver of Various Petitioners to Allow the Establishment of 700 MHz Interoperable Public Safety Wireless Broadband Networks, *Order*, FCC 10-79, PS Docket 06-229, Paragraph 64 (May 12, 2010).

objective-- Phase I Acceptance on June 30, 2012 for Charlotte Center City Deployment and Operations. The schedule includes:

- *Public Land Mobile Network Identifier (PLMN ID)*- Meeting the objective of June 30, 2012 initial deployment entails that the PLMN ID circumstances be resolved by February 24, 2012 to meet testing and other operational requirements. Current discussions focus on the single PLMN ID model yet we are reviewing internally, with the Commission staff and other waiver recipients, alternatives and the associated challenges presented by each. Our review of the risks and associated costs is continuing. We will work with the Commission staff in addressing the appropriate PLMN ID model.
- *Interoperability Showing*- Waiver recipients were provided opportunity to present greater detail as to how best to achieve interoperability with other public safety broadband networks, including complying with the Commission's December 2010 *Order*.² In this regard, effort is currently directed to describing and showing interconnectivity among and between jurisdictions, how roaming is to be effectuated with commercial carriers and how other interoperability elements will be pursued. We are pursuing mid December 2011 to complete a revised draft and sharing it with the Commission staff.
- *Interoperability Device Testing* – An acquisition process has been initiated to obtain network devices for those authorized to use the network. Interoperability device testing (IODT) of intended devices is critical to verify the network's technical capability. Assuming device acquisition remains as scheduled, initial IODT is planned to commence in March 2012 and be completed by April 6, 2012. Our intention is to provide details to the Commission of how we intend to perform the IODT.

A more detailed project schedule is set forth on the attachment.

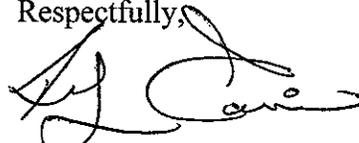
Charlotte and the other CharMeck members appreciate greatly the commitment of the Commission staff to moving the project forward so that that an effective and cost efficient broadband network can emerge in the very near future.

² In the Matter of Requests for Waiver of Various Petitioners to Allow the Establishment of 700 MHz Interoperable Public Safety Wireless Broadband Networks, *Order*, DA 10-2342, PS Docket 06-229 (December 10, 2010).

We have provided a copy of this update to the October 2011 quarterly report to Chief McEwen of the Public Safety Spectrum Trust and to Mr. Lance Johnson of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration.

Please call upon me if I can provide any additional information.

Respectfully,



Randy Davis
IT Communications Services
Business Support Services
527 Spratt Street
Charlotte, North Carolina 28206
704-336-8088

Attachment

Copy Provided to:

Chief Harlan McEwen
Chairman, Public Safety Spectrum Trust

Mr. Lance Johnson
National Telecommunications and Information Administration
Department of Commerce

