

To Whom It May Concern:

As a long time boating enthusiast, I am very concerned about the potential loss of GPS services. In pursuing our business and personal lives, we rely on GPS for the safe navigation in our local waters as well as for regional and offshore voyages.

In addition to providing us with reliable onboard positioning and navigation information, the GPS system provides critical support to many of our safety systems, such as our anti-collision Automatic Identification System (AIS). This automatic tracking system is used on our vessel as well as other recreational vessels and commercial ships for identifying and locating other vessels, by electronically exchanging positioning and navigation data with those other nearby vessels. Our AIS supplements our marine radar, and continues to be an effective method of collision avoidance. This is a major safety consideration when operating at night or other times of reduces visibility.

The GPS service also provides positioning information to such vital systems as our Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon (EPIRB) and Emergency Locator Beacons (ELB) which provide nearly pinpoint accuracy in case of an emergency. The availability and accuracy of this information can cut down on response time, which could ultimately result in saving someone's life.

In short, the GPS service provides the primary means for getting my family and friends safely from one place to another. The loss of this service would dramatically reduce the level of security at sea that we currently enjoy.

I understand the importance of broadband services; however, the loss of this vital public safety service to a proposed ?For-Profit? broadband network, that has been proven beyond any reasonable doubt to cause interference with the GPS service, with no remedies and at the expense of public safety, would be the worst kind of tragedy; a preventable one.

As strongly as I possible can, I urge the FCC to protect the integrity of the GPS signal and stop LightSquared?s current proposal.