



March 12, 2012

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

Re: LightSquared

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

I have written to the FCC and other agencies in the past to express my support for LightSquared, a company which proposes to build a revolutionary new 4G LTE network, using both satellite and terrestrial equipment. I have a particular reason for writing today. As you may have seen on the national news, Eastern Kentucky was hit very hard by tornadoes last week. Places like West Liberty, Kentucky, were devastated. At least 22 people were killed in these storms, the worst I can remember.

LightSquared went above and beyond the call of duty, providing satellite telephones to rescue workers and other first responders throughout the mountains of Kentucky. These satellite telephones were of significant assistance to these workers' ability to communicate with each other, and with other governmental agencies.

I grew up in Lee County, Kentucky, a very rural county in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains. While it is a very beautiful area, it is also an area whose mountainous terrain makes the use of cell phones difficult or impossible. One of the few types of new business introduced to Eastern Kentucky in recent years has been the adventure tourism industry. This industry uses land that often would be wasted, because it has been strip mined or is isolated, or which is too hilly for most uses, and makes it productive. All terrain vehicle ("ATV") trails are very popular in adventure tourism, along with riding trails, ziplines, rock climbing, and other outdoor activities.

Last year, while I was visiting one of these areas, an ATV vehicle turned over, injuring one of my friends. Because we did not have any cell phone service in that area, we were delayed in our ability to contact help for hours, and while my friend was not seriously injured, we were all rather traumatized by the process. This is just one illustration of how good cell service in rural areas can have an impact on public safety, first responders, tourism, and private business in general. Had good cell phone service been available, not only would we have been able to call help sooner, but anyone else could have been using that cell service could have been arranging to visit the same park we visited. Communications is the key to modern business, safety, and

education.

I have read that LightSquared, which is an entirely private company, will require no government money to set up a satellite based 4G network that will provide good service to millions of Americans in rural counties like those in the mountains of Kentucky.

Small businesses are the life blood of areas like Eastern Kentucky, because few larger businesses or employers move to these areas. LightSquared proposes to sell its cell phone and broadband service through independently owned retailers. This will generate business and create jobs in small communities all over our nation. LightSquared should be allowed and encouraged to invest the \$14 billion that it will take to put this network into production, a huge boost to our economy.

As I understand its position, LightSquared is not asking for special favors or to be treated differently than anyone else. I have read that its regulatory filings and other documents going back to 2001 have clearly stated exactly what areas of the spectrum it intends to use, and that GPS manufacturers have known since then that they should adjust their equipment accordingly.

I work for an engineering company, and therefore I understand the role of intangible property, such as intellectual property, and the right to use such a valuable resource as a portion of our broadcast spectrum. A ruling in favor of LightSquared would protect private property and private investment in our infrastructure. LightSquared has already invested over a billion dollars in its satellite and other operations, and plans to spend a total of over \$14 billion in implementing the network. This is the type of private investment in infrastructure that should be encouraged by the FCC, particularly when it will be of such benefit to rural America.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sandra Reese Dunahoo". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Sandra Reese Dunahoo