



New York State Snowmobile Association

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Executive Director

Dominic Jacangelo

January 27, 2012

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

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

I am writing on behalf of the New York State Snowmobile Association and its nearly 70,000 members across New York State in support of LightSquared's efforts to bring 4G LTE wireless voice and data to underserved parts of rural New York State by building the nation's first integrated wireless broadband and satellite network. I would also like to make you aware of why it is important for our state and country to bring such a capable network to fruition.

Our association's mission is to promote safe and smart snowmobiling in New York State, a mission that is made more difficult with the lack of adequate wireless broadband coverage in the rural parts of New York State. One of the most important things to the modern snowmobile enthusiast is the ability to communicate in the event of an accident or emergency. Today's wireless telecommunication networks allow our riders to be safer than they've ever been, unfortunately, most of our trails are located in rural and very remote parts of New York with very little or no cell coverage at all.

In addition to promoting snowmobile safety and trail riding activities, the New York State Snowmobile Association works through our "Trail Watch" program with National Grid and New York State Homeland Security to protect sensitive power facilities along our trails by watching for and reporting suspicious activity. We take this responsibility very seriously. Unfortunately, there are many areas in New York State where inadequate wireless coverage would make it difficult to report a situation should it occur.

Although safety is the primary reason why we need to bring wireless services to underserved rural parts of our state, there are also practical reasons as well, such as trail grooming. Trail grooming is one of our biggest responsibilities and we do it in conjunction with the New York State Office of Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation. I bring this to your attention because we utilize both GPS and wireless broadband networks to collect and report data to the local clubs and the NYS Office of Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation. This data is then

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used for management and efficiency purposes. Unfortunately, there are far too many instances where we are not able to report the data because the lack of wireless connectivity.

Many of our 230 member clubs are located in rural and remote areas. These clubs are frustrated by the fact that they must depend on dial up internet service. We must adapt NYSSA's official communication with these clubs to ensure that large documents are not part of the distribution package. This necessity impacts our ability to effectively communicate with our clubs.

We believe as many across the state and country do that LightSquared's network will address the aforementioned issues. Working with Sprint, LightSquared will build the infrastructure that will bring wireless voice and coverage to the parts of our state that are underserved or have no coverage at all.

All we need now is for the FCC to come up with a compromise so the devices and networks of LightSquared and the GPS industry are able to coexist. We desperately need an independent and transparent process to quickly address the few outstanding issues remaining with certain GPS devices and LightSquared's network.

We are a nation of doers, let's fix the problems so LightSquared can begin to build it \$14 billion 4G LTE wireless network so that the 70,000 members of our association and their families can have the coverage they need while riding, grooming and ensuring the safety of over 10,500 miles of snowmobile trails which generates nearly a billion dollars in NY economic activity.

Sincerely,



Executive Director
New York State Snowmobile Association

Cc: Commissioner Copps
Commissioner Clyburn
Commissioner McDowell
Senator Charles Schumer
Senator Kirsten Gillibrand
Congressman Ackerman
Congresswoman Buerkle
Congressman Gibson
Congressman Hanna

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Congresswoman Hayworth
Congressman Higgins
Congressman Hinchey
Congressman Israel
Congressman King
Congresswoman Lowey
Congresswoman Maloney
Congressman Owens
Congressman Reed
Congresswoman Slaughter
Congressman Tonko
Congressman Turner
Assistant Secretary Lawrence E. Strickling