

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

June 12, 2012

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

PSHSB
Pub Safety
Radio
1/21

Re: File Nos. 0004980650, *et al.*; DA No. 12-74

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

On January 23, 2012, the Federal Communications Commission released a Public Notice, DA 12-74, seeking comments regarding a request for waiver filed by the State of Maine. The State is seeking access to additional spectrum for a new state-wide public safety radio communications system. We urge the Commission to proceed as quickly as possible to respond to the State's request.

State and local government public safety agencies across Maine currently rely upon a patchwork of outdated radio systems, which do not provide consistent coverage, reliability or interoperability. A new state-wide radio system has been planned and is fully funded, but it requires additional channels that are not presently available to the State without a waiver of certain Commission rules. The channels in question are currently unassigned, but are designated for use by railroads and other industrial and business entities. The State informs us that it can use these channels without causing interference to current licensees or significantly limiting future spectrum availability for authorized users.

We also understand that the State of Maine has other applications necessary for the new radio system that are now pending with the Commission. We urge the Commission to process those applications as quickly as possible so the State can proceed with deployment of its new public safety communication network.

Thank you for your consideration of the issues raised in this letter.

Sincerely,



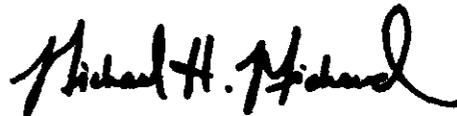
Susan M. Collins
United States Senator



Olympia J. Snowe
United States Senator



Chellie Pingree
Member of Congress



Michael Michaud
Member of Congress

cc: Rear Admiral Jamie Barnett, Jr. (Ret.)
FCC Chief, Public Safety & Homeland Security Bureau



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

August 29, 2012

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Chellie Pingree
U.S. House of Representatives
1318 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Pingree:

Thank you for your letter regarding Maine's waiver request. I appreciate your bringing this matter to my attention and have directed the Chief of the FCC's Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau to respond. I am pleased to provide the enclosed letter addressing your concerns.

If you have any additional questions or need any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "J. Genachowski", written over a horizontal line.

Julius Genachowski

Enclosure



Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

August 29, 2012

**In Reply Refer To:
1200721**

The Honorable Chellie Pingree
United States House of Representatives
1318 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: File Nos. 0004980650, *et al.*

Dear Congresswoman Pingree:

Thank you for your letter supporting a request by the State of Maine for a waiver of Federal Communications Commission ("Commission") rules to enable Maine to use additional spectrum for the operation of a new state-wide public safety radio communications system. I appreciate your concern that the Commission act promptly on Maine's request.

I am pleased to inform you that on July 31, 2012, the Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau and the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau issued an order granting the majority of pending applications filed by Maine and the waiver requests associated with these applications. I have attached a copy of the order.

In addition to the applications granted by our July 31 order, Maine has also filed applications for frequencies that are designated for railroad use. As you may be aware, these applications have been opposed by the American Association of Railroads (AAR) on behalf of railroads operating in the state, and there are a number of contested issues. My staff has met with representatives from both the State and AAR to explore resolution of these contested issues. We have also encouraged the parties to seek a mutually agreeable solution, and the parties report to us that discussions are ongoing. We will continue to work with both the State and AAR to reach a satisfactory resolution or we will decide the disputed issues if the parties are unable to resolve them.

Your views are very important to me and they will be considered as part of the Commission's review of the record of this proceeding. I can assure you that Maine's request is receiving a full, complete, and fair review and we will do whatever is needed to get to a timely result.

Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Turetsky". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D".

David S. Turetsky
Chief, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

August 29, 2012

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Olympia J. Snowe
United States Senate
154 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Snowe:

Thank you for your letter regarding Maine's waiver request. I appreciate your bringing this matter to my attention and have directed the Chief of the FCC's Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau to respond. I am pleased to provide the enclosed letter addressing your concerns.

If you have any additional questions or need any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

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Julius Genachowski

Enclosure



Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

August 29, 2012

In Reply Refer To:
1200721

The Honorable Olympia J. Snowe
United States Senate
154 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-1903

Re: File Nos. 0004980650, *et al.*

Dear Senator Snowe:

Thank you for your letter supporting a request by the State of Maine for a waiver of Federal Communications Commission ("Commission") rules to enable Maine to use additional spectrum for the operation of a new state-wide public safety radio communications system. I appreciate your concern that the Commission act promptly on Maine's request.

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David S. Turetsky
Chief, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

August 29, 2012

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Susan M. Collins
United States Senate
413 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Collins:

Thank you for your letter regarding Maine's waiver request. I appreciate your bringing this matter to my attention and have directed the Chief of the FCC's Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau to respond. I am pleased to provide the enclosed letter addressing your concerns.

If you have any additional questions or need any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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Julius Genachowski

Enclosure



Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

August 29, 2012

**In Reply Refer To:
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The Honorable Susan M. Collins
United States Senate
413 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

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David S. Turetsky
Chief, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

August 29, 2012

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Michael Michaud
U.S. House of Representatives
1724 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Michaud:

Thank you for your letter regarding Maine's waiver request. I appreciate your bringing this matter to my attention and have directed the Chief of the FCC's Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau to respond. I am pleased to provide the enclosed letter addressing your concerns.

If you have any additional questions or need any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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Julius Genachowski

Enclosure



Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

August 29, 2012

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The Honorable Michael Michaud
United States House of Representatives
1724 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

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David S. Turetsky
Chief, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau