

Eric B. Payne

3320 Hanover Avenue - Richmond, VA 23221

December 5, 2012

Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: DA 12-1863, IB Docket No. 12-340; RM-11683

Dear Federal Communications Commission:

As American businesses and economies grow, they continuously become more dependent on wireless innovation and infrastructure. In order to foster positive growth, I urge the Commission to enable all Americans to be able to benefit from this growing technology. As someone who travels on business throughout Virginia, I have seen firsthand how certain areas have advanced and some areas have fallen behind, due to access to wireless broadband – or lack thereof. Access to wireless broadband is vitally important for the private and public sectors.

As the use of wireless spectrum increases, I am mindful of the fact that spectrum sharing between federal and commercial users is a critical policy tool to achieve the Commission's goal to efficiently and effectively manage spectrum in a manner that allows all Americans to have affordable access to robust and reliable wireless broadband products and services. To that end, I urge the Commission to consider and approve of LightSquared's request to modify its license so it can provide a nationwide wireless broadband service using spectrum shared with federal users. In its filing, the LightSquared states that it will use the relevant shared spectrum "in a manner that will protect the integrity of continuing, essential government operations." In addition to that assurance, I hope that the Commission will consider that LightSquared is in a unique position to leverage this shared spectrum into a significant wireless broadband network because it is already authorized to use an adjacent 5 MHz block of frequencies for a nationwide service.

Commissioner Ajit Pai noted recently that "spectrum sharing may be a workable alternative when auctions can't be used to raised funds for relocation...but if our goal is to incentivize investment in wireless networks, nothing beats clearing." Without government subsidies or grants, LightSquared is a company that appears committed to investing significant capital in building a new wireless competitor using shared spectrum. If Commissioner Pai is right that shared spectrum won't generally attract wireless infrastructure investment, it is imperative that the Commission take advantage when an applicant like LightSquared *does* come to the table.

According to recent studies by the Telecommunications Industry Association, every \$10 billion capital investment in wireless infrastructure creates 100,000 American jobs – notwithstanding the positive spillover effects additional spectrum capacity will have on the provision of healthcare, education, public safety and business connectivity. Failure to grant LightSquared's

application could potentially result in a negative effect for all these industries. This is an opportunity for progress that cannot be overlooked.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Payne". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Eric" and last name "Payne" clearly distinguishable.

Eric Payne

cc: U.S. Senator Mark R. Warner