

We support the Region 12 RPC and the Idaho SIEC in their request to waive the mandatory 700 MHz narrowband deadline of December 31, 2016 to December 31, 2024. In reference to our agency, Kootenai County Office of Emergency Management, the smaller, rural jurisdictions that we serve would have a financially difficult time replacing fairly new radio equipment which has not yet reached the end of its current lifecycle. The extension of this date to 2024 or the elimination of this date would allow us to fully realize the full lifecycle of our equipment and would be fiscally responsible to our citizens. If your implementation of this rule occurs in 2016, it would negatively impact our ability to interoperate as it could force some users back onto legacy systems that could not afford to upgrade.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer our public comment on this issue.