

**Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554**

In the Matter of)
Amendment of Sections 90.20(d)(34) and)
90.235 of the Commission’s Rules to facilitate) PS Docket No. 13-229
the use of Vehicular Repeater Units)
)

Comments of the Ohio Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee

The Ohio Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (Ohio SIEC) is pleased to submit these comments in response to the Commission’s *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, FCC 13-121, released September 16, 2013 (“NPRM”) in the above captioned proceeding¹ regarding vehicular repeater systems (“VRS”) used by public safety licensees to expand radio coverage for portable radios in emergency systems.

The Ohio SIEC serves public safety first responder agencies, both governmental and non-governmental, throughout the entire state of Ohio. It has been active since 2002 when then-Governor Bob Taft requested and received approval from the Commission to form the Committee.

The Mission of the Ohio Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee is to provide guidance and strategic direction for Public Safety first responders in their communications initiatives, for the purpose of continuous improvement in reliable, mission critical communications interoperability.

In 2012 Governor John Kasich officially designated, in Executive Order 2012-07K, the Ohio SIEC “...to address concerns relating to operability and interoperability of local, regional and statewide public safety voice and data communications systems, to plan for the long-term efficient implementation and operation of interconnected public safety communications systems, [and] to improve overall public safety communications interoperability in Ohio.”

Designated members include all genres of public safety, all levels of government, all levels public service and associations relating to the same. Attendance at meetings, held at least quarterly, frequently runs over 75 people.

¹ The *NPRM* begins at paragraph 41 of the Commission’s “*Order and Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*”.

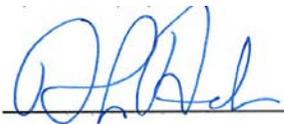
Based on both our Mission Statement and the Governor's designation, the Ohio SIEC has moved beyond the Federal charge of administering 700 MHz. Interoperability to include assisting all agencies in all spectrums with their communications needs.

COMMENTS:

With the above in mind, the Ohio SIEC was privileged to have reviewed the draft comments of APCO, Int'l., The State of Ohio MARCS and the Region 33 Planning Committees.

Rather than re-stating them all here, we will just say we approve and endorse their comments. The need for additional spectrum for Mobile Repeaters in all bands is obvious and it's up to the Commission to meet their obligation to provide for Public Safety.

Respectfully,



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