PUBLIC NOTICE

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**FCC ANNOUNCES AGENDA TOPICS FOR INDIAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS
INITIATIVES REGIONAL WORKSHOP AND ROUNDTABLE IN POLSON,
MONTANA**

*Tribal Representatives, FCC to participate in intergovernmental Indian Telecommunications
Initiatives program examining issues critical to Public
Safety and Homeland Security in Indian Country*

By this Public Notice, the FCC announces agenda topics for the Public Safety and Homeland Security Regional Workshop and Roundtable ("ITI Montana") that will be held in Polson, Montana on October 24 and 25, 2006.   This event is being sponsored in cooperation with the National Congress of American Indians ("NCAI"), the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians ("ATNI") and the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes ("CSKT")

This workshop is dedicated specifically to Public Safety and Homeland Security issues. The event is designed as a workshop and intergovernmental consultative meeting between FCC senior staff and the tribal leaders and representatives who have responsibility for homeland security, public safety, and Information Technology security, and will focus on such topics as emergency preparedness and critical infrastructure protection in the communications sector and public safety communications, interoperability and preparedness. The purpose of this event is to give the tribes tools to plan for the protection of critical communications infrastructure on, or serving, tribal lands. A final agenda will be released prior to the event.

ITI Montana will specifically focus on providing an overview of public safety and homeland security communications programs and the FCC's strategic plan and goals for public safety and homeland security. These include, but are not limited to:

- The National Security/Emergency Preparedness (NS/EP) Priority Communications, including the Telecommunications Service Priority (TSP), Wireless Priority Service (WPS), Shared Resources (SHARES) High-Frequency Radio Program and Government Emergency Telecommunications Service (GETS) programs;

- Critical infrastructure protection (CIP) in the communications sector, coordinating communications infrastructure protection efforts between governments and across sectors in accordance with the National Infrastructure Protection Plan (NIPP), the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the National Response Plan (NRP);

- The FCC's pilot program for the provision of telemedicine services, funded under the Universal Service Fund's Rural Health Care mechanism; and

- The FCC's new Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau and its role in the promotion of emergency communication services.

Panels will also address the challenges and opportunities for tribes in fulfilling the national goals for infrastructure protection and interoperable public safety communications, tribal infrastructure protection and emergency response capabilities, as well as interoperable public safety communications for tribal first responders, law enforcement, emergency operation centers, 911 call centers, hospitals, and fire stations, among other entities.

The FCC's Homeland Security Mission

The Homeland Security mission of the FCC is to evaluate and strengthen measures for protecting the Nation's communications infrastructure; facilitate rapid restoration of that infrastructure in the event of disruption; and develop policies that promote access to effective communications services by public safety, public health, and other emergency personnel in emergency situations.

On September 26, 2006, the FCC announced the launching of the Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau. This Bureau will build on the Commission's longstanding commitment to meet the needs of public safety by promoting robust, reliable and resilient communications services in times of emergency. The Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau is designed to provide an efficient, effective and responsive organizational structure to address matters related to public safety, homeland security, and emergency management and preparedness. The Bureau is responsible for the combined public safety-related functions that were previously dispersed among the other bureaus and offices at the FCC.

Cooperation and coordination among industry, public safety organizations, and federal, tribal, state, and local governments is essential to the successful nationwide implementation of critical infrastructure protection, public safety communications interoperability, and effective public alert and warning systems. The Commission's public safety homeland security goals include ensuring that the communications industry is capable of providing effective and technologically up-to-date public alerts and warnings to the American public.

The FCC's Indian Telecommunications Initiatives

The FCC's ITI is a comprehensive program that seeks to promote understanding and cooperation and trust among tribes and tribal organizations, the FCC and other governmental agencies, and the telecommunications industry. The ITI program seeks to build partnerships, identify potential solutions, and bring affordable, quality telecommunications services to Indian Country. The ITI program's goals -- to increase the telephone penetration rate; facilitate the deployment of telecommunications infrastructure on tribal lands; and inform tribes about federal government programs, including Universal Service Fund programs -- are undertaken in Indian

Country by the FCC through targeted and effective tribal outreach, coordination and consultation. The FCC's Office of Intergovernmental Affairs (IGA), located within the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau, is responsible for coordinating the agency's tribal outreach and consultation.

Registration for "The Public Safety - Homeland Security ITI" and Additional Information

The FCC's Public Safety – Homeland Security ITI is free of charge and open to all interested parties. Tribal leaders and representatives that have public safety, IT security, and homeland security responsibilities are particularly encouraged to attend. To register for the ITI Workshop and Roundtable, or to obtain additional information, please call 1-888-CALL-FCC (1-888-225-5322) press number 5 and follow the prompts to leave your full contact information, call 202-418-2513, fax 202-418-1414, or e-mail your full contact information to iti-info@fcc.gov.

The ITI Workshop and Round table will be held at the Best Western KwaTaqNuk Resort**,** 303 U.S. Hwy 93 East, Polson, MT, 59860. For reservations, call the hotel at (406) 883-3636 or (800) 882- 6363 or visit their website, www.kwataqnuk.com. When reserving rooms, please mention that your reservation is for the FCC public safety and homeland security training event.

Reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities are available upon request. Include a description of the accommodation you will need with as much detail as possible. Also include a way we can contact you if we need more information. Please allow at least 5 days advance notice; last minute requests will be accepted, but may be impossible to fill. Send an e-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202-418-0530 (voice), 202-418-0432 (TTY).

For more information on the ITI Workshop and Roundtable or the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, please contact Alice Elder, Chief, Office of Intergovernmental Affairs at 202-418-2168 or alice.elder@fcc.gov or Shana Barehand, Senior Attorney and Tribal Liaison, Office of Intergovernmental Affairs at 202-418-0385, shana.barehand@fcc.gov.

Updates and further information will also be made available on the FCC's Tribal Initiatives website at: http://www.fcc.gov/indians.

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