



OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

October 6, 2009

The Honorable John F. Kerry
United States Senate
218 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Kerry:

Thank you for your letter concerning the Commission's *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM)* that seeks comment on providing spectrum for Medical Micropower Network (MMN) use in the 413-457 MHz band. I appreciate learning of your support for MMN technology and allocating additional spectrum with appropriate rules to accommodate such MMN operations in this frequency band.

As you are aware, this proceeding was initiated in response to a petition for rulemaking filed by the Alfred Mann Foundation (AMF). In its petition, AMF proposes to establish a new wideband MMN service that could afford significant quality of life benefits for persons suffering from neurological disorders as a result of injury or disease. Such new wireless technologies might be very useful, particularly for the treatment and rehabilitation of military personnel returning from Iraq and Afghanistan suffering from spinal cord, traumatic brain, and other severe injuries received during their military service.

Comments on the *NPRM* were due August 11, 2009, with reply comments due September 10, 2009. The Commission will consider the record developed in this proceeding very carefully, including your letter. We are currently taking a hard look at concerns about the compatibility of MMN devices with incumbent operations in portions of this band.

I appreciate your interest in this important matter. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julius Genachowski". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke.

Julius Genachowski
Chairman