



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

April 22, 2010

The Honorable Olympia Snowe
United States Senate
154 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Snowe:

Thank you for your letter recommending that the Commission promptly conclude five open rulemaking proceedings that could enable roll-out of significant additional spectrum to meet near-to-midterm demand for additional commercial wireless broadband spectrum.

One of the biggest challenges to the development of mobile broadband services is the limitation on available spectrum. I agree that, in meeting this challenge, the Commission should take steps to ensure that spectrum is being used – by established firms and new entrants alike – in a productive and efficient manner that will encourage the development of innovative, market-driven products. I agree, as well, that providing additional spectrum for broadband will be necessary. I join you in supporting the preparation of a spectrum inventory of commercial, non-commercial, and government users. The Commission stands ready as a resource for Congress as it considers any legislation in this area.

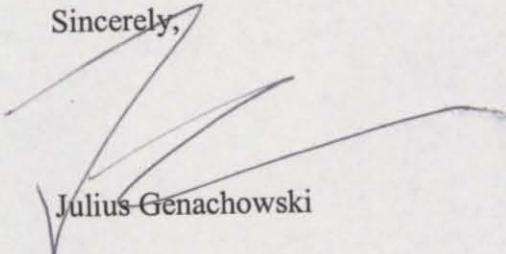
Mobile broadband is central to our mission at the Commission. No sector of the communications industry holds greater potential to enhance America's economic competitiveness, spur job creation, and improve the quality of our lives. To achieve this potential, however, we must address one of the biggest challenges to the development of competitive broadband services, the limitation on available spectrum. The National Broadband Plan, which was delivered to Congress on March 16, 2010, presents multiple recommendations for allocating spectrum to meet consumers' needs for wireless broadband services.

As you note in your letter, the Commission has proceedings pending on five sets of spectrum bands, among others: (1) Wireless Communications Service in the 2305-2320 MHz and 2345-2360 MHz bands; (2) the 700 MHz Upper D Block in the 758-763 MHz and 788-793 MHz bands; (3) 2 GHz Mobile Satellite Service in the 2000-2020 MHz and 2180-2200 MHz bands; (4) Advanced Wireless Service (AWS) in the 1915-1920 MHz, 1995-2000 MHz, 2020-2025 MHz and 2175-2180 MHz (AWS-2) bands; and (5) AWS in the 2155-2175 MHz (AWS-3) band. All of these spectrum bands have been identified by parties as possible sources for additional spectrum for the provision of mobile broadband service. As the National Broadband Plan indicates, these proceedings are being prepared for active consideration.

Page 2—The Honorable Olympia Snowe

We have placed your letter in the records for the rulemaking proceedings you reference. I appreciate your interest in this very important matter. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,



Julius Genachowski