

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE,
AND TRANSPORTATION

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May 28, 2010

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The Honorable Julius Genachowski
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Mr. *Julius,* Genachowski:

We are writing to urge you to immediately begin a comprehensive inventory of the use of radio spectrum by non-federal government licensees and users under the Federal Communications Commission's jurisdiction.

Radio spectrum is a scarce, but valuable resource. As more and more of our communications take place using wireless technology, it is vitally important for us to understand how spectrum is allocated and used. Indeed, gaining a better understanding of how we use spectrum is the first step toward identifying how we can use this resource most efficiently to carry out critical government missions and to help bring more advanced communications services to consumers across the country.

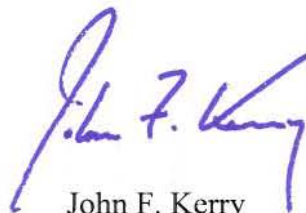
As you are aware, the Radio Spectrum Inventory Act, S. 649, is designed to provide Congress with a comprehensive view of how the nation's radio spectrum is being used by both federal government and non-federal government users. The bill would require a joint inventory of spectrum by the Commission and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). Unfortunately, despite our repeated attempts to pass the bill through the full Senate, we remain at a stalemate.

Given this impasse, we encourage you to expedite this important undertaking by conducting an inventory, consistent with the provisions of S. 649, of all non-federal government spectrum licensees and users. We encourage you to coordinate with the NTIA, in light of that agency's oversight of federal government spectrum users, in order to provide us a complete analysis of radio spectrum allocation and use. Such an inventory will be a positive first step in helping us formulate a sound policy for this Nation's future spectrum needs.

Sincerely,



John D. Rockefeller IV
Chairman



John F. Kerry
Chairman, Subcommittee on
Communications, Technology,
and the Internet