

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

July 29, 2011

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The Honorable Julius Genachowski
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: LightSquared Subsidiary LLC Request for Modification of Its Authority for an Ancillary Terrestrial Component, File No. SAT-MOD-20101118-00239

Dear Mr. Chairman:

As the Commission considers the LightSquared Subsidiary LLC (“LightSquared”) matter, we are writing to encourage you and your fellow Commissioners to weigh carefully the important policies at stake in this proceeding, including both the rapid deployment of next generation wireless broadband to all Americans and the need to preserve and strengthen our Global Positioning System (“GPS”).

As the National Broadband Plan recommended, the nation’s needs in an increasingly global economy will require significant spectrum for wireless broadband services, and the Commission and the Congress should take action to ensure sufficient spectrum availability for a competitive wireless market. These spectrum decisions will be critical to enabling the jobs and private businesses of tomorrow and in spurring unfettered innovation and new investment. In making strategic spectrum decisions, we must not only find more spectrum, we must be tireless in our efforts to require more efficient use of existing spectrum resources.

The Commission has the opportunity to serve both of those goals in the present proceeding. By encouraging the “multi-tasking” of satellite spectrum to serve the nation’s next generation wireless broadband goals, the Commission has effectively found new terrestrial spectrum while at the same time enhancing the efficiency of existing spectrum uses. We commend you for creating an environment in which private investment can be directed to achieving these important goals.

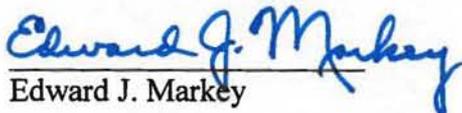
Like any new spectrum initiative, however, LightSquared’s network deployment must be compatible with the needs of nearby spectrum users; in LightSquared’s case, with essential GPS services used for national defense and security, public safety, and the productive life of our economy and citizens. Accordingly, we urge you and your colleagues to consider carefully the interference concerns regarding LightSquared’s network, which have been raised by the GPS industry and federal agencies who are responsible for our security and our national wellbeing. GPS is vital and cannot be jeopardized.

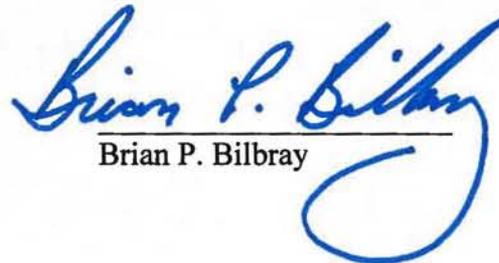
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Consistent with the Commission's longstanding statutory authority to coordinate between users of spectrum to mitigate harmful interference, we are aware that you have required LightSquared to work with the GPS industry and the relevant federal agencies to study interference concerns. We support you in your resolve that, in consultation with NTIA, you will address concerns relating to widespread harmful interference to GPS and urge you to do so in timely fashion.

We recognize the Commission's unique obligation to the public, and its commitment to ensure appropriate use of the nation's airwaves. We urge the Commission to work with all interested parties to ensure that the American public is able to benefit both from expanded broadband deployment and a robust GPS system.

Sincerely,


Edward J. Markey


Brian P. Bilbray