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COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE

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- SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND POWER

DEMOCRATIC SENIOR WHIP

May 2, 2012

0568

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

Re: *The Texas Interoperability Showing, v9*

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

I am writing to request that the *Texas Interoperability Showing, v9* be approved **as soon as possible** in order to allow Harris County, Texas, to conclude the necessary Interlocal Agreements and proceed with all necessary preparations to become operational by the required "Go Live" date of May 31, 2012.

I am in the process of working with my Congressional colleagues to send a Houston area delegation letter to you, but this is of such an urgent nature I wanted to bring it to your attention immediately.

Harris County has been anticipating approval of the Interoperability Showing based on communications with the FCC and the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) since February. On the February 21, 2012 Docket # 06-229 filing, DPS clearly requested prompt action in approving the Interoperability Showing, stating, "The State is eager to address and close all outstanding issues which are preventing the Bureau from granting the State permission to begin Public Safety LTE operation. We appreciate the Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau's prompt action on this request" but the Bureau recently conveyed that they understood the requested date for approval from the FCC to be May 30, 2012, just one day before the planned go live date.

This is an apparent misunderstanding, which the State and Harris County are working to clarify. **An approval date from the FCC of May 30, 2012, is too late to meet the May 31 "Go Live" date.**

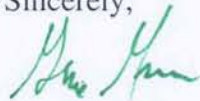
Harris County needs a decision from the FCC because:

- Interlocal Agreements with local jurisdictions such as the City of Baytown, The Metropolitan Transit Authority of Harris County, The Harris County Toll Road Authority and others are extremely difficult to consummate without the authority to operate;
- Partnering with commercial carriers for site sharing and roaming agreements are affected;
- Harris County needs for adequate lead time for system testing with non-county subscribers; and
- Harris County is unable to test and validate new RF sites.

Harris County and its constituents have spent millions of dollars in equipment, services and civil works and so I urge you to facilitate this approval process so Harris County can meet the May 31, 2012 goal to be operational.

I request that you respond to these concerns no later than **Monday, May 7, 2012**. Thank you for your prompt consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Gene Green
Member of Congress

Cc: RADM James Arden "Jamie" Barnett, Jr., USN (Ret)
Chief, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau