



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

January 3, 2013

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Steve Israel
U.S. House of Representatives
2457 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Israel:

Thank you for your letter regarding the public safety systems in the 470-512 MHz band. I appreciate your interest in this matter and am pleased to provide the enclosed letter on this issue from the Chief of the FCC's Public Safety Homeland Security Bureau.

If you have any additional questions or need any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julius Genachowski", written over a long horizontal line.

Julius Genachowski



Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

January 3, 2013

In Reply Refer To:
1201269

The Honorable Steve Israel
U.S. House of Representatives
2457 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Israel:

Thank you for your letter regarding the recently enacted Middle Class Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 (Act), and in particular the provisions of the Act relating to the public safety systems in the 470-512 MHz band (commonly referred to as the T-Band). You relay that your constituents have expressed concern with respect to the need to purchase new equipment to relocate these systems, and the associated cost.

As you note, Section 6103 of the Act provides that, not later than nine years after the date of enactment, the Commission shall "reallocate the spectrum in the [T-Band] . . . currently used by public safety eligibles" and "begin a system of competitive bidding under Section 309(j) of the Communications Act of 1934 . . . to grant new initial licenses for the use of the spectrum." It also provides that relocation of public safety entities from the T-Band spectrum shall be completed not later than two years after completion of the system of competitive bidding, and provides that auction funds may be used to cover the cost of public safety relocation.

The Commission has begun initial consideration of the provisions of the Act, including Section 6103, and is committed to working with NTIA to follow the Act's directives. We expect to issue a Public Notice soon that will solicit comment on Section 6103's implementation, which will provide T-Band licensees with an opportunity to publicly address their concerns and inform the Commission as it considers this issue. We are happy to discuss with any affected T-Band licensees what options are available to them under Section 6103.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Turetsky".

David S. Turetsky
Chief, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau