



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

April 22, 2013

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Debbie Stabenow
United States Senate
133 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Stabenow:

Thank you for your March 28th letter regarding the importance of international coordination to the incentive auction process, particularly for our border states. The Commission is keenly aware of the importance of coordination with both Canada and Mexico, and I share your confidence that the coordination with our neighboring countries will be successful. Enclosed, please find a letter from Gary Epstein, Chair of the Commission's Incentive Auction Task Force, answering the specific questions posed in your letter.

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

Sincerely,

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Julius Genachowski

Enclosure



Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

April 22, 2013

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United States Senate
133 Hart Senate Office Building
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Gary M. Epstein
Chair
Incentive Auction Task Force



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JULIUS GENACHOWSKI
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The Honorable Justin Amash
U.S. House of Representatives
114 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Amash:

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U.S. House of Representatives
514 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

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U.S. House of Representatives
226 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

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The Honorable Dave Camp
U.S. House of Representatives
341 Cannon House Office Building
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2426 Rayburn House Office Building
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The Honorable John D. Dingell
U.S. House of Representatives
2328 Rayburn House Office Building
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Sincerely,



Gary M. Epstein
Chair
Incentive Auction Task Force



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

April 22, 2013

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Dan Kildee
U.S. House of Representatives
327 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Kildee:

Thank you for your March 28th letter regarding the importance of international coordination to the incentive auction process, particularly for our border states. The Commission is keenly aware of the importance of coordination with both Canada and Mexico, and I share your confidence that the coordination with our neighboring countries will be successful. Enclosed, please find a letter from Gary Epstein, Chair of the Commission's Incentive Auction Task Force, answering the specific questions posed in your letter.

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

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Julius Genachowski

Enclosure



Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

April 22, 2013

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327 Cannon House Office Building
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Gary M. Epstein
Chair
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

April 22, 2013

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Carl Levin
United States Senate
269 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Levin:

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Washington, D.C. 20554

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

April 22, 2013

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Sander M. Levin
U.S. House of Representatives
1236 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

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Washington, D.C. 20554

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Incentive Auction Task Force



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

April 22, 2013

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Candice S. Miller
U.S. House of Representatives
1034 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Miller:

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

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U.S. House of Representatives
1609 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

April 22, 2013

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI
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The Honorable Fred Upton
U.S. House of Representatives
2183 Rayburn House Office Building
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Chair
Incentive Auction Task Force



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

April 22, 2013

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI
CHAIRMAN

The Honorable Tim Walberg
U.S. House of Representatives
2436 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Walberg:

Thank you for your March 28th letter regarding the importance of international coordination to the incentive auction process, particularly for our border states. The Commission is keenly aware of the importance of coordination with both Canada and Mexico, and I share your confidence that the coordination with our neighboring countries will be successful. Enclosed, please find a letter from Gary Epstein, Chair of the Commission's Incentive Auction Task Force, answering the specific questions posed in your letter.

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, consisting of a stylized 'J' followed by a horizontal line and a small dot at the end.

Julius Genachowski

Enclosure



Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

April 22, 2013

The Honorable Tim Walberg
U.S. House of Representatives
2436 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Walberg:

Thank you for your letter regarding the importance of international coordination to the incentive auction process. The Commission has made coordination with its counterparts in both Canada and Mexico a top priority and we expect our efforts to be successful. Below please find answers to the specific questions posed in your letter:

1. What is the current status of coordination efforts with the Canadian or Mexican governments?

The Commission and State Department have been engaged in on-going discussions with Canada and Mexico on border issues related to the incentive auction. As is typical in open spectrum proceedings with cross-border implications, the Commission, State Department, and their Canadian and Mexican counterparts have established government-to-government working arrangements that have been operating to help ensure optimal outcomes for all three countries. The U.S.-Canada working arrangement has resulted in several teleconferences over the past month to advance our work in this area. We expect the consultations with our counterparts in Canada and Mexico to result in a better designed and more successful auction.

The Commission and State Department will continue using established coordination processes (e.g. the U.S.-Canada Radio Technical Liaison Committee (RTLCC) and U.S.-Mexico High Level Consultative Commission on Telecommunications (HLCC)) for regular teleconferences and/or meetings with Canadian and Mexican telecommunications officials.

2. What is the Commission's timeline for international coordination?

As is typical, our international coordination efforts will be ongoing. We intend to have sufficient arrangements in place in advance of the incentive auction to provide auction participants and non-participants alike enough information to make needed business decisions.

3. What are the significant milestones that must be reached to complete the coordination?

As in any international negotiation, there are several unique stages, and progression from one stage to the next depends on a variety of factors. We anticipate one of the first areas where the United States will reach initial understandings with its Canadian and Mexican counterparts will concern the methodologies to be used for interference scenarios for television and future

wireless services. We also anticipate seeking initial understandings related to the disposition of certain television allotments in Canada and Mexico that are currently protected under bilateral agreements.

Once the United States and Canada or Mexico reach an understanding on a particular coordination issue, various types of negotiated instruments can be used to formalize that understanding.

4. Who will represent the FCC during these discussions? What other U.S. government officials will be participating?

Members of the Commission's Incentive Auction Task Force, particularly staff from the International Bureau, represent the Commission during our discussions. Representatives from the State Department, particularly the State Department's International Communications and Information Policy Office of Bilateral and Regional Affairs, also participate in these discussions. The State Department will lead negotiations on any instruments used to formalize our understandings with Canada or Mexico.

5. When does the FCC expect the coordination efforts to be finalized with Canada and Mexico? Is there a target date for completion?

The Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 (Spectrum Act) reiterated the Commission's existing duty to coordinate with Canada and Mexico, and we will comply with the Spectrum Act's requirements.

As noted above, our international coordination efforts will be ongoing. We intend to have sufficient arrangements in place in advance of the incentive auction to provide auction participants and non-participants alike enough information to make needed business decisions.

I appreciate your interest in this important matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you should require further assistance. We will place a copy of your inquiry and our response in the Commission's incentive auction docket.

Sincerely,



Gary M. Epstein
Chair
Incentive Auction Task Force