

Congress of the United States

MAR 10 2014

Washington, DC 20515

FCC Mail Room

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March 5, 2014

Tom Wheeler  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, D.C., 20554

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

We write regarding a recent notice of dismissal for Hudson County, New Jersey concerning a waiver request from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to increase the wattage on their Traveler Information Station (TIS). Specifically, the County is seeking to increase the wattage of the local TIS radio station from 10 to 100 watts.


It is our understanding from the text of the dismissal notice, that there appears to be no protocol in place for which the County can work with the FCC to increase the size of the station in the future in order to enhance the amount of information transmitted to residents. Being one of the most densely populated and travelled through parts of the country, Hudson County is seeking to increase their reach to residents during times of catastrophic events. As evident during Superstorm Sandy, when power outages occur for days-on-end, residents and travelers look to the local TIS for emergency information. We are concerned that without the ability to reach a wider audience, many residents and travelers will be unprepared during times of disaster.

We would encourage the FCC to work with Hudson County to ensure that the local TIS is able to reach the appropriate audience to guarantee the safety of the public during times of disaster.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

  
Albio Sires  
Member of Congress

  
Bill Pascrell  
Member of Congress