

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3302

October 22, 2015

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The Honorable Tom Wheeler
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Expanding the Economic and Innovation Opportunities of Spectrum through Incentive Auctions, Docket No. 12-268, and

Amendment of Parts 73 and 74 of the Commission's Rules to Establish Rules for Digital Low Power TV and Translator Stations, Docket No. 03-185

Dear Mr. Chairman:

We write to applaud your efforts to achieve a successful Spectrum Incentive Auction. As supporters of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act ("Spectrum Act"), it is our view that a successful auction must make an effort to accommodate Low-Power Television ("LPTV") stations and translators so they may continue to serve their communities, whether urban, suburban, or rural.

As our colleagues Representatives Greg Walden and Joe Barton reminded you in a letter on August 4th, Congress and the FCC agree on the importance of community-based LPTV and translators. LPTV and translators provide the public with a diverse selection of programming and content representing many different cultures, denominations, and worldviews.

Following our July 28, 2015 oversight hearing, we are concerned that following the FCC's broadcast incentive auction there may not be sufficient spectrum to accommodate LPTV stations and translators, potentially forcing them to cease operation.

In order to retain as many of these valuable voices in our communities, it is essential that the FCC limit the incentive auction's impact on LPTV service as much as possible without harming the goals of the incentive auction or delaying its progress.

By November 18, 2015, I would like you to provide us with the following:

1. A detailed status of the Commission's open rulemaking on considering additional means to mitigate the potential impact of the incentive auction and the repacking process on

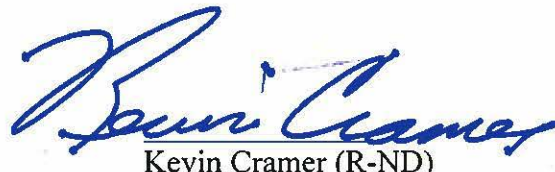
LPTV and TV translator stations to help preserve the important services they provide (Docket No. 03-185 and No. 12-268), specifically addressing whether this rulemaking will be completed well before auction.

2. In addition, we would also appreciate if you provided whatever analyses and studies that have been conducted by your staff and consultants on the impacts on possible stranding or effective extinguishment of LPTV stations in an auction that clears 126 MHz in the reverse stage and sells 100MHz in the tandem forward event nationwide in all markets, as your staff and investment banking agents have been marketing. Please provide these forecasted LPTV clearing effects by TV market.
3. Lastly, we would also like you to release any alternate scenarios already in-hand that provide ranges of impacts upon LPTV for clearing down to 84 MHz and up also up to 132 MHz of spectrum, as have appeared in various FCC public statements as possible auction goals and outcomes.

We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,


Renee Ellmers (R-NC)
Member of Congress


Kevin Cramer (R-ND)
Member of Congress


Gus M. Bilirakis (R-FL)
Member of Congress


Billy Long (R-MO)
Member of Congress

cc: Hon. Mignon Clyburn, FCC Commissioner
Hon. Michael O'Rielly, FCC Commissioner
Hon. Ajit Pai, FCC Commissioner
Hon. Jessica Rosenworcel, FCC Commissioner