



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

March 21, 2016

The Honorable Marsha Blackburn
U.S. House of Representatives
2266 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Blackburn:

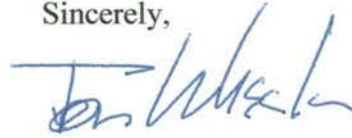
Thank you for your letter encouraging the Commission to expeditiously open a proceeding to reallocate the 1675-1680 MHz band for commercial use.

I am committed to making more spectrum available for new, flexible-use services. And I share your perspective that, through coordination and spectrum sharing, this particular spectrum has the potential to be of significant value for wireless broadband use. At the same time, I am aware of the importance of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Meteorological Satellite and radiosonde operations in this band, and the interest in protecting these operations. As you note, however, some studies have indicated that it may be possible to move radiosondes to another band and the 1675-1680 MHz band could be reallocated on a shared basis while protecting NOAA operations. As a result, the Commission is exploring potential scenarios that could benefit interested stakeholders and discussing this matter with both NOAA and the Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA).

We also have a pending matter related to the 1675-1680 MHz band. Ligado Networks LLC (formerly known as "Lightsquared LLC") has requested that the Commission initiate a proceeding to allocate this spectrum for commercial broadband use in conjunction with its proposed L-Band license modification plan. Accordingly, we are in the process of consulting with NTIA and our other federal partners prior to seeking comment on Ligado Networks LLC's request that a proceeding be initiated. The Commission will engage in a transparent process to collect data and consider Ligado's proposals, any competing proposals, and the needs of the government users prior to making any decisions related to the 1675-1680 MHz band. Our analysis will be comprehensive and informed by an objective engineering review of the band, as well as appropriate policy considerations, in keeping with our mandate to act in the public interest. As we move ahead with that process, I will keep you apprised of our work related to this matter.

I look forward to working with you to ensure that the Commission can perform its mission in ensuring our telecommunications industry has access to essential spectrum resources. Please feel free to call me if you have any other concerns regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

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Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

March 21, 2016

The Honorable G.K. Butterfield
U.S. House of Representatives
2305 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Butterfield:

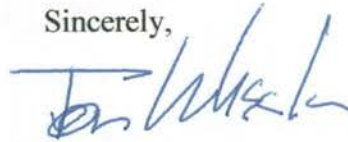
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Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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March 21, 2016

The Honorable Chris Collins
U.S. House of Representatives
1117 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Collins:

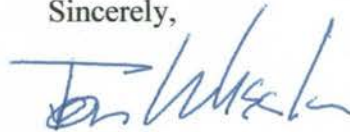
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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OFFICE OF
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March 21, 2016

The Honorable Kevin Cramer
U.S. House of Representatives
1032 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Cramer:

Thank you for your letter encouraging the Commission to expeditiously open a proceeding to reallocate the 1675-1680 MHz band for commercial use.

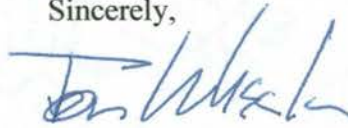
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Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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OFFICE OF
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March 21, 2016

The Honorable Diana DeGette
U.S. House of Representatives
2368 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman DeGette:

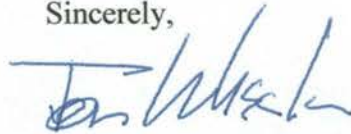
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OFFICE OF
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March 21, 2016

The Honorable Mike Doyle
U.S. House of Representatives
239 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Doyle:

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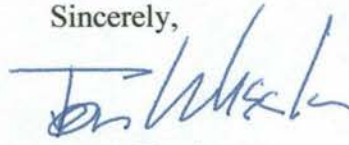
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March 21, 2016

The Honorable Bill Flores
U.S. House of Representatives
1030 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Flores:

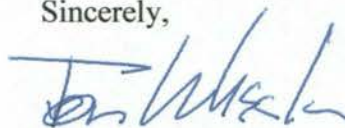
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March 21, 2016

The Honorable Brett Guthrie
U.S. House of Representatives
2434 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Guthrie:

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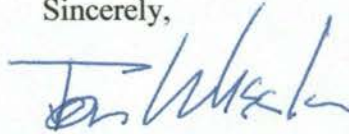
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March 21, 2016

The Honorable Richard Hudson
U.S. House of Representatives
429 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Hudson:

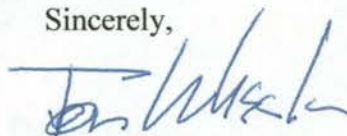
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March 21, 2016

The Honorable Bill Johnson
U.S. House of Representatives
1710 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

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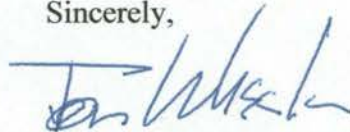
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March 21, 2016

The Honorable Bob Latta
U.S. House of Representatives
2448 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Latta:

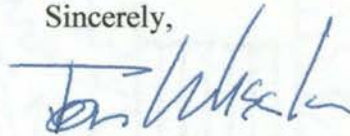
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March 21, 2016

The Honorable Billy Long
U.S. House of Representatives
1541 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

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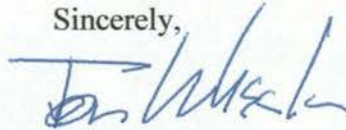
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March 21, 2016

The Honorable Doris Matsui
U.S. House of Representatives
2311 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Matsui:

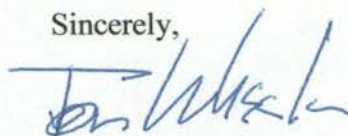
Thank you for your letter encouraging the Commission to expeditiously open a proceeding to reallocate the 1675-1680 MHz band for commercial use.

I am committed to making more spectrum available for new, flexible-use services. And I share your perspective that, through coordination and spectrum sharing, this particular spectrum has the potential to be of significant value for wireless broadband use. At the same time, I am aware of the importance of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Meteorological Satellite and radiosonde operations in this band, and the interest in protecting these operations. As you note, however, some studies have indicated that it may be possible to move radiosondes to another band and the 1675-1680 MHz band could be reallocated on a shared basis while protecting NOAA operations. As a result, the Commission is exploring potential scenarios that could benefit interested stakeholders and discussing this matter with both NOAA and the Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA).

We also have a pending matter related to the 1675-1680 MHz band. Ligado Networks LLC (formerly known as "Lightsquared LLC") has requested that the Commission initiate a proceeding to allocate this spectrum for commercial broadband use in conjunction with its proposed L-Band license modification plan. Accordingly, we are in the process of consulting with NTIA and our other federal partners prior to seeking comment on Ligado Networks LLC's request that a proceeding be initiated. The Commission will engage in a transparent process to collect data and consider Ligado's proposals, any competing proposals, and the needs of the government users prior to making any decisions related to the 1675-1680 MHz band. Our analysis will be comprehensive and informed by an objective engineering review of the band, as well as appropriate policy considerations, in keeping with our mandate to act in the public interest. As we move ahead with that process, I will keep you apprised of our work related to this matter.

I look forward to working with you to ensure that the Commission can perform its mission in ensuring our telecommunications industry has access to essential spectrum resources. Please feel free to call me if you have any other concerns regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Tom Wheeler". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent horizontal stroke at the beginning.

Tom Wheeler





FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

March 21, 2016

The Honorable Pete Olson
U.S. House of Representatives
2133 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Olson:

Thank you for your letter encouraging the Commission to expeditiously open a proceeding to reallocate the 1675-1680 MHz band for commercial use.

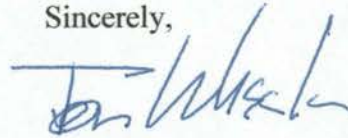
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Page 2—The Honorable Pete Olson

I look forward to working with you to ensure that the Commission can perform its mission in ensuring our telecommunications industry has access to essential spectrum resources. Please feel free to call me if you have any other concerns regarding this matter.

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Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

March 21, 2016

The Honorable Bobby L. Rush
U.S. House of Representatives
2188 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Rush:

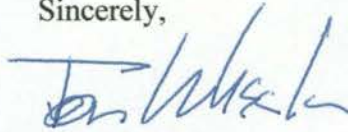
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Tom Wheeler





FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

March 21, 2016

The Honorable Peter Welch
U.S. House of Representatives
2303 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Welch:

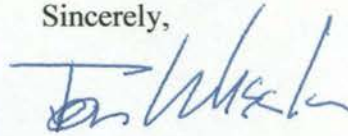
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Tom Wheeler





FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

March 21, 2016

The Honorable Edward Whitfield
U.S. House of Representatives
2184 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Whitfield:

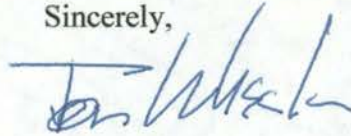
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Tom Wheeler