



OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

March 14, 2018

The Honorable Robert J. Wittman  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2055 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Wittman:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Commission's review of mid-band spectrum in the 3550-3700 MHz band (3.5 GHz band) and the 3700-4200 MHz band (3.7 GHz band). I share your concern of promoting continued investment in the band by a variety of stakeholders, including by wireless Internet service providers, that serve the needs of rural communities.

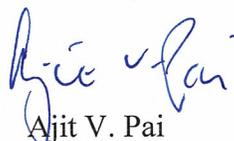
During my participation in Virginia's First District's Rural Broadband Task Force Summit with you in October, I was encouraged by the insightful dialogue among stakeholders on obstacles and solutions to providing broadband access to rural Virginians—including the need for more commercial, terrestrial access to mid-band spectrum. To that end, I thank you for the invitation to participate in the event.

Commissioner O'Rielly has been heading up the Commission's efforts to review the 3.5 GHz band, including through the issuance of a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to consider certain adjustments to existing rules. I look forward to sharing your concerns with him as we work to reexamine the existing rules, including rules to expand access to licensed spectrum in the 3.5 GHz band.

Regarding the 3.7 GHz band, the Commission issued a Notice of Inquiry last summer on how that band (among others) could be put to its best use. I intend to propose the next steps needed to make that band available for commercial, terrestrial use in the coming months.

I appreciate your interest in bringing broadband to unserved and underserved communities. Your views will be entered into the record of the current 3.5 GHz rulemaking proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

  
Ajit V. Pai

*P.S. Congressman, thanks again for hosting me in the district. I look forward to working with you to get the 1<sup>st</sup> Bully connected!*