



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

October 15, 2019

The Honorable John N. Kennedy  
United States Senate  
416 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Kennedy:

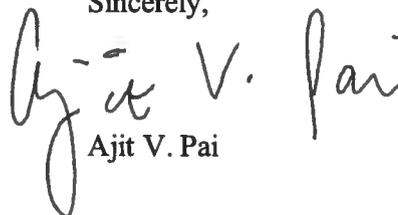
Thank you for your letter concerning the Federal Communications Commission's ongoing rulemaking related to spectrum in the 3.7-4.2 GHz band, commonly called the "C-band." C-band spectrum is widely seen as a critical swath of mid-band spectrum that could drive American leadership in 5G, the next generation of wireless connectivity. This spectrum offers both geographic coverage and the capacity to transmit large amounts of data—a combination that is appealing to entrepreneurs and wireless consumers alike.

However, this proceeding is exceedingly complex, principally because of the number of entities that currently rely on C-band delivered services. In particular, content companies, broadcasters, and cable operators use this spectrum for the delivery of services that consumers rely upon. As a result, bringing this rulemaking to a successful conclusion will require the FCC to balance a variety of interests. That is why we have sought public comment on all aspects of the issues involved. We want to make a fully-informed decision that is consistent with the public interest.

Stakeholders have brought forward different plans for the C-Band, and the Commission is continuing to evaluate those proposals. And as we move forward, I believe that it is important that we keep in mind the following goals. *First*, we are seeking to make available a significant amount of spectrum in the C-Band for 5G. Or to put it another way, the more spectrum that we can make available for 5G, the better. *Second*, we want to make C-Band spectrum available for 5G quickly. *Third*, we believe that this spectrum should generate revenue for the federal government. And *fourth*, we want to ensure that the services that are currently using the C-Band will continue to be delivered to the American people.

The Commission is continuing to assess the record and engage in dialogue with stakeholders regarding these issues. And I am optimistic that the Commission will be able to adopt rules that will advance these objectives in the near future. Thank you once again for your letter. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

  
Ajit V. Pai

cc: The White House