



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

August 11, 2020

The Honorable Bill Posey
U.S. House of Representatives
2150 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Posey:

Thank you for your continued interest in the Commission's ongoing rulemaking regarding the 3.7-4.2 GHz band, commonly called the C-band. The Commission continues to work to reallocate C-band spectrum for flexible terrestrial use and to assign that spectrum through a public auction. This proceeding is critical to maintaining U.S. leadership in 5G, and I appreciate and share your desire that this proceeding benefit American consumers and the U.S. economy.

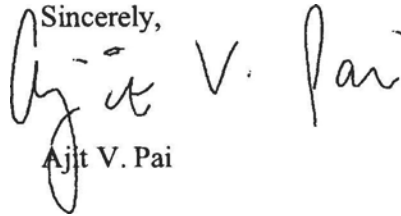
To that end, I am pleased to report that the FCC's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau recently secured commitments from all five eligible satellite operators to meet an accelerated clearing timeline, paving the way for faster 5G deployment in the C-band. We are also still on track to begin an auction of 280 megahertz of C-band spectrum on December 8.

In your letter, you suggest the Commission institute a "Buy American" request to all satellite operators. We have encouraged eligible space station operators to purchase satellites and ground equipment built in the United States, and to purchase U.S. launch services. Like you, I would like to see these funds used to support the U.S. aerospace industry and American workers. In terms of procurement, the five eligible space station operators filed their Transition Plans for Commission review on June 19. These plans provide detailed information on the specific aspects of the planned transitions for each operator, including plans to manufacture, procure, and launch new satellites. The two largest satellite operators, Intelsat and SES, which together account for more than 90% of the services provided in this band, have announced in their Transition Plans and elsewhere that U.S. companies will be manufacturing their new satellites in the United States.

Specifically, SES has announced contracts with U.S. companies Northrup Grumman and The Boeing Company to manufacture its new C-band satellites, and with United Launch Alliance and SpaceX to provide launch services. Intelsat has announced contracts with U.S. vendors Maxar Technologies and Northrup Grumman to produce its new C-band satellites (it has not yet announced launch service contracts). In addition, Intelsat has announced that it has contracted with U.S.-based companies USSI Global, WESCO, ATCi, and Convergent to perform aspects of the transition and installation work required on the ground at thousands of earth stations and cable television head-ends throughout the United States. With respect to other satellite operators, Eutelsat has not yet announced details about manufacturers with which it may work,

while Telesat and Star One have indicated that they will not need to order additional satellites to complete the transition. I am optimistic that further good news on this front will be revealed in the near future.

I appreciate your continued interest in this matter. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

Ajit V. Pai



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THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

August 11, 2020

The Honorable Charlie Joseph Crist
U.S. House of Representatives
427 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Crist:

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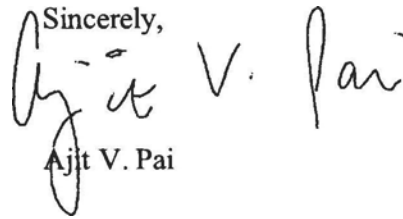
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August 11, 2020

The Honorable Bill Flores
U.S. House of Representatives
2440 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Flores:

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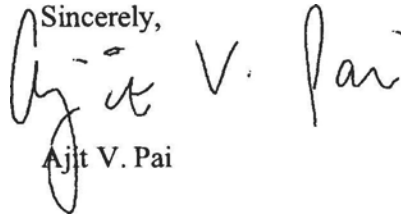
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