

From: Richard Hanno

To: John Kennedy

Date: March 16, 2005

Subject:

FCC File # 0024-EX-ST-2005

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Message:

Dear Mr. Kennedy:

□ In response to OET's request for a progress report concerning the operations related to the call sign for station WD2XJO, Advance Metering Data Systems, LLC ("AMDS") provides the following:

□ Testing performed by AMDS in conjunction with Southern Company has shown that the AMDS radio link is able to perform in fall and winter conditions. The narrow band system has shown to work well in areas previously thought to be difficult for RF propagation. Key aspects of the AMDS system are the utilization of Macro diversity, unique receiver design to deal with various multi-path fading effects and multi-channel signal processing receivers to fully dissect the incoming spectra. The Macro diversity component has proved to provide a greater level of reliability not previously afforded by earlier generation equipment.

□ The MAS band poses significant challenges to radio based systems. The density of trees and other foliage is typically a monumental challenge for systems as absorption is quite high for this band resulting in significant signal attenuation. Additionally, the combination of direct and indirect signals resulting in fast fading is also a significant challenge. The system being tested in the current areas for Southern Company provide both of these environments. The test results thus far have shown that the AMDS system is designed to handle these design challenges and provide reliable data communications.

□ Testing for various weather conditions, those being the heat of the summer, are yet to be shown but it is expected that the system will continue to prove its overall technical improvements over earlier systems. As the summer approaches we will expect to see a rise in not only the noise floor but also ambient noise sources will become a larger factor. Further testing for areas which provide a larger challenge with respect to multipath and the resultant slow and fast fading are now requested as part of the testing being performed.

□ While early testing of the system in its current licensed environments is proceeding well, it is expected that the slow fading effect of the mountainous region of Jasper Georgia will provide a more rigorous and necessary test environment. In the vicinity of the Jasper sites, it is expected that the amount of both fast and slow fading will be of significant levels that the link will be vigorously challenged. Slow fading is typically encountered in a log-normal distribution while Fast fading is normally a Gaussian distribution. The unique environment of Jasper will permit AMDS to study the combined levels of fading. Such studies are critical to the overall success of AMDS' project.

□ In regards to OET's inquiry as to whether AMDS is capable of surrendering one of its existing experimental sites, AMDS is prepared to surrender its authority to operate its site in Lubbock, Texas as soon as it is granted the authority to begin experiments in Jasper, Georgia.

□ Thank you for your attention to this matter. AMDS looks forward to OET's response.

Richard Hanno