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April 28, 1999

Anthony Serafini
Office of Engineering & Technology
Federal Communications Commission
2000 M Street, N.W.
Room 480
Washington, D.C. 20554

*Re: Formus Communications, Inc., Application for Experimental License,
File No. 0046-EX-PL-1999*

Dear Mr. Serafini:

On behalf of Formus Communications International, Inc. ("FCI"), this letter responds to your E-mail inquiry to James Barker dated April 7, 1999, and is intended to supplement the above-referenced experimental license application.

As stated in its application, FCI's focus is on developing high-speed broadband wireless telecommunications systems using LMDS frequencies in the United States, and comparable spectrum in international markets. The reason for including frequency bands beyond those allocated for domestic LMDS frequencies FCI's license application is that the radiospectrum allocated for broadband wireless access uses in other countries does not in many instances correspond to the U.S. domestic LMDS allocation. By way of example, in the 25.25 -27 GHz frequency range referenced in your E-mail, the 25.85-26.35 and 29.175-29.25 GHz frequencies are allocated for wireless broadband service in Argentina; the 26.4-27.85 GHz frequencies are allocated for wireless broadband service in New Zealand; the 25.57-25.627 and 26.695-26.751 GHz frequencies are allocated for wireless broadband service in Germany; and frequencies have been authorized for such service on a trial basis at 24.556-24.606 and 25.564-25.614 GHz in Hungary. Because FCI has been very active internationally in obtaining authorizations for wireless broadband service, FCI requires an ability to test LMDS or LMDS-like systems and equipment in order to develop its international business.

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In any given frequency range, FCI's test operations are expected to occupy approximately 30 MHz of spectrum for several radio transmitters located on the roof of FCI's headquarters in Denver, CO, and friendly test sites within 1-3 miles from that location (although such testing may occur at other points within the Denver BTA, as explained and requested in FCI's application). During a period of time ranging from 6 months to 1 year, FCI expects to test the antennas, radios and modulators for Bit Error and overall reliability using a minimum amount of power necessary to achieve reliable reception.

FCI wishes to make clear its understanding that its experimental broadband testing would be authorized by the FCC on a strict secondary basis. If at any time during FCI's testing FCI's operations cause interference on a specific frequency or range of frequencies with the operations of any primary spectrum licensee, including U.S. government operations, FCI will immediately discontinue the tests on such frequency or frequencies, and will not re-initiate testing on such frequency or frequencies if the problem cannot be managed to the satisfaction of the primary licensee.

FCI hopes that this explanation is useful to the Commission, and that its experimental license can be granted expeditiously. Please contact the undersigned, or our regulatory counsel, James Barker of Latham & Watkins, should you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

FORMUS COMMUNICATIONS INTERNATIONAL, INC.

By: 
Thomas Dodds
Vice President Engineering