

**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICER**



12 March 2007

Federal Communications Commission - Office of Engineering and Technology
Attn: James R. Burtle, Experimental Licensing Branch Chief
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: Expedited handling request for experimental license application
REF: Form 442, File Number 0109-EX-PL-2007 from FRN 0016173635

Dear Mr. Burtle,

On the 2nd of March, my staff electronically filed the above referenced application for an experimental license to authorize initial implementation and test of the first phase of a 700 MHz Regional Wireless Broadband Network (RWB) for the National Capital Region (NCR).

This network, the first of its kind in the nation, will provide Broadband IP data services for use initially by first responders (Police and Fire) in the District of Columbia and, over the next few years, first responders throughout the NCR. The reason for our request for an experimental license is to facilitate testing and optimization as soon as possible. We intend to apply for permanent licenses in the next few months and to have these in place prior to commencement of regular operations later this summer.

Because of the heightened risk of global terrorism and especially because of the attractive nature of the nation's capital as a target, we request your assistance in expediting this request to allow us to roll out this system for test as soon as possible readying this network for eventual use by the personnel who protect the citizens of and visitors to our seat of Government.

I understand that your department is resource-constrained, but note that the RWB is specifically intended to support *homeland security*, in case of a terrorist attack or natural disaster, as well as *safety of life and property* on an ongoing daily basis. Your accommodation of this request for expedited handling will help us provide the tools to support our first responders; we have already issued contracts for the initial network equipment which is being currently delivered. We need to begin the testing of the first sites later this month.

If you have any questions on any aspect of our application, or require any additional detail on our plans, please contact Bill Butler in our Wireless Programs Group on 202 442 4933.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Robert LeGrande II".

Robert LeGrande II

District of Columbia Interim Chief Technology Officer / NCR IP

RL/whb