

SHAW PITTMAN
POTTS & TROWBRIDGE

A PARTNERSHIP INCLUDING PROFESSIONAL CORPORATIONS

2300 N Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037-1128
202.663.8000
Facsimile 202.663.8007

ROBERT E. CONN
202.663.8093
Senior Counsel

RECEIVED

MAR 26 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

900 Third Avenue
New York, New York 10022-4728

March 26, 1997

Mr. William F. Cayton
Acting Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Received

APR 0 1997

Satellite Policy Branch
International Bureau

Re: Mobile Communications Holdings, Inc.
File Nos. 11-DSS-P-91(6)
18-DSS-P-91(18)
11-SAT-LA-95
12-SAT-Amend-95

Dear Mr. Cayton:

It has just come to our attention that a letter, dated March 14, 1997, was filed with the Commission by The Honorable Edolphus Towns, Member of Congress, urging a prompt grant of the above-referenced "Big Leo" satellite application of Mobile Communications Holding, Inc. ("MCHI").

We are serving copies of the enclosed letter from Congressman Towns on all of the parties to this proceeding, the Commissioners, and Staff Officials of the International Bureau, all of whom are listed on the attached certificate of service.

Sincerely,



Jill Abeshouse Stern
Robert E. Conn

Attorneys for MCHI

EDOLPHUS "BO" TOWNS
MEMBER OF CONGRESS
19TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

ENERGY AND COMMERCE
HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT
COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION,
AND COMPETITIVENESS

GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY AND
NATURAL RESOURCES

CHAIRMAN:
HUMAN RESOURCES AND
INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3210

March 14, 1997

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
SUITE 2222
RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-3210
(202) 225-8838

BROOKLYN OFFICES:
148 BRADLEY, 26 FLOOR
BROOKLYN, NY 11208-2882
(718) 387-8688
19 COURT ST., SUITE 1800
BROOKLYN, NY 11241
(718) 866-8018

The Honorable Reed Hundt
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

RECEIVED

MAR 26 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Dear Chairman Hundt:

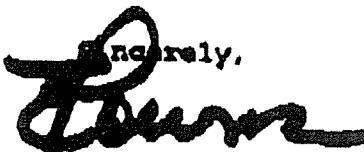
Pursuant to my initial inquiry to William Caton, dated January 13, 1997, I am inquiring about the international Bureau review of the MCHI "Big Leo" license application. MCHI is a small business which will offer, through its Ellipso system, low cost, wireless telephony around the world, including rural areas. To date, of the three licenses granted, all have been awarded to giants in the industry, none of which have demonstrated technical superiority to MCHI's Ellipso system.

There are four primary reasons why it is vitally important that MCHI be awarded a license. MCHI has developed an outstanding partnership with Vula Communications of South Africa, which is owned by major black trade unions, business and civic groups. Additionally, the partnership will spur economic development for South Africa, by providing quality low-cost service. Further, it is critical that the Commission move expeditiously. The process of consideration of the license application has profound cost implications for under-served communities as well as important partners in emerging world economies.

Finally, the Commission was able to make an initial decision in favor of the three large firm applicants within three weeks of the close of the pleading cycle in January 1995. Two years later, and five weeks after the close of the current pleading cycle for the two remaining small firm applicants, the Commission has yet to respond. This raises troubling questions of fairness and equitable treatment towards small firm applicants.

Clearly, the merits of awarding the license favor MCHI. I encourage you to expedite your processing of this license application, and look forward to a speedy resolution to this matter. Thank you for your consideration and assistance.

Sincerely,



Edolphus Towns
Member of Congress

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing document were served by first class mail, postage prepaid, or hand-delivered, on this 26th day of March, 1997, on the following persons:

*Chairman Reed E. Hundt
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 814
Washington, D.C. 20554

*Commissioner James H. Quello
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 802
Washington, D.C. 20554

*Commissioner Rachelle B. Chong
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 844
Washington, D.C. 20554

*Commissioner Susan Ness
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 832
Washington, D.C. 20554

*Julius Genachowski, Esq.
Special Assistant
Office of the Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 814
Washington, D.C. 20554

*William E. Kennard, Esq.
General Counsel
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 614
Washington, D.C. 20554

*Donald H. Gips
Chief, International Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
2000 M Street, N.W., Room 800
Washington, DC 20554

*Peter Cowhey
Acting Chief Designate
International Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
2000 M Street, N.W.
Room 849
Washington, D.C. 20554

*John Stern
Senior Legal Advisor to the
Chief, International Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
2000 M Street, N.W., Room 800
Washington, DC 20554

*Fern J. Jarmulnek, Branch Chief
International Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
2000 M Street, N.W., Room 518
Washington, D.C. 20554

*Karl Kensinger, Esq.
International Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
2000 M Street, N.W., Room 521
Washington, D.C. 20554

*Cassandra Thomas
International Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
2000 M Street, N.W., Room 800
Washington, DC 20554

*William H. Bell
International Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
Room 508
2000 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Philip L. Malet, Esq.
Marc A. Paul, Esq.
Steptoe & Johnson, LLP
1330 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20036

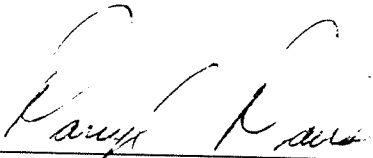
Robert A. Mazer, Esq.
Vinson & Elkins
1455 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20006

Norman P. Leventhal, Esq.
Raul R. Rodriguez, Esq.
Stephen D. Baruch, Esq.
Leventhal, Senter & Lerman
2000 K Street, N.W., Suite 600
Washington, D.C. 20006-1809

Lon C. Levin
Vice President & Regulatory Counsel
AMSC Subsidiary Corporation
10802 Parkridge Boulevard
Reston, VA 22091

William Wallace
Crowell & Moring LLP
1001 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20004

Leslie Taylor, Esq.
Leslie Taylor Associates
6800 Carlynn Court
Bethesda, MD 20817-4302



Darryl A. Davis

*Hand delivered