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FCC Mail Room

SENATOR WILL LONGWITZ

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February 17, 2012

The Honorable Julius Genachowski, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: IB Docket No. 11-109; ET Docket 10-142

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

I am disappointed to learn that the FCC has proposed to revoke the authorization LightSquared received in 2004 to operate its nationwide, integrated satellite-terrestrial mobile broadband network. Ironically, this action happened within hours of the Mississippi Legislature passing Senate Resolution 538, which I authored, calling for increased access to broadband in Mississippi.

Mississippi is a rural state, and would gain enormous benefit from the affordable access to mobile broadband that LightSquared has spent billions of dollars and eight years developing. But while we in Mississippi are speaking out for better wireless access, the federal government seems unwilling even to examine facts, in effect ignoring the needs of the estimated 500,000 Mississippians who lack high-speed Internet access.

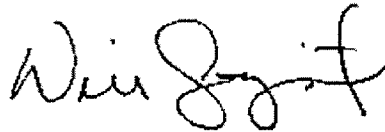
I recognize the importance of resolving the GPS interference issues and applaud LightSquared for its long-standing commitment not to take its product to the marketplace before all issues are resolved to the FCC's satisfaction – despite the fact that the interference stems from GPS devices that are squatting on spectrum licensed to LightSquared. As LightSquared continues to try to resolve the interference issues, the Commission owes it an impartial review of the facts and a good-faith effort to develop a solution. More important, the Commission has a duty to optimize the usefulness of the airwaves that it manages on behalf of the American

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people. If technology or other suitable spectrum is available that would allow consumers to enjoy the benefits of both GPS and next generation mobile broadband, why not make every attempt to identify and implement it?

On behalf of all of us in rural America, I encourage you to continue to work with both the GPS manufacturers and LightSquared to help them come up with a mutually satisfactory solution that will allow the two industries to coexist, while bringing lower prices and better service to consumers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Will Longwitz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "W" and "L".

Senator Will Longwitz
District 25