







September 12, 2012

The Honorable Fred Upton Chairman Committee on Energy & Commerce 2125 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Greg Walden Chairman, Subcommittee on Communications & Technology 2182 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable Henry Waxman Ranking Member Committee on Energy & Commerce 2322A Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Anna Eshoo Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Communications & Technology 205 Cannon House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairmen Upton and Walden and Ranking Members Waxman and Eshoo:

We support the 10-year 500 MHz spectrum allocation goal outlined in the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) March 2010 National Broadband Plan (NBP). The Administration, the FCC, and Congress deserve credit for taking the first concrete step toward implementing that goal by adopting the incentive auction provisions contained in the Middle Class Tax Relief Act.

Spectrum allocation policies that enjoy bipartisan support in Congress have helped make the wireless industry a bright spot in a sluggish U.S. economy. Recon Analytics reports that wireless added \$146.2 billion to U.S. GDP from mid-2010 to mid-2011, created an entirely new business sector—applications—that expanded to \$8.2 billion in 4 years, and was responsible for 3.8 million direct and indirect jobs in 2011, including 200,000 new jobs created since 2005.

Without near-term access to additional licensed spectrum allocations below 3 GHz, that growth and America's global leadership in mobile technology will be threatened by an inability to keep pace with dramatic increases in mobile broadband traffic. Over the past 2 years, actual traffic on licensed mobile networks has exceeded all the forecasts used by the FCC in developing the NBP spectrum allocation recommendations. Between Q1 2011 and Q1 2012, traffic on licensed mobile networks almost doubled. Cisco's U.S. mobile data forecast projects that mobile data traffic will increase 18 times from 2011 to 2016. Ericsson predicts that, over the next 5 years, mobile data traffic will grow 15 times.

The wireless industry is investing billions of dollars in new technologies to solve this problem by improving spectrum efficiency, deploying LTE networks, adding cell sites, and improving network management practices and technologies, but it will not be enough. The evidence is overwhelming. More cleared, paired, internationally-harmonized spectrum allocations below 3 GHz are needed and needed soon. America's economy and its global leadership in mobile broadband depend on it.

Sincerely,

Steve Largent

President and Chief Executive Officer

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CTIA - The Wireless Association

Rhod Shaw Executive Director

High-Tech Spectrum Coalition

David F. Taylor Executive Director

Wireless Broadband Coalition

Dean Garfield

President

Information Technology Industry Council

Grant Seiffert President

Telecommunications Industry Association

Gary Shapiro

President and Chief Executive Officer

Consumer Electronics Association

Chris Pearson President 4G Americas

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