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Education For Life

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

00-258

April 10, 2001

Chairman Michael K. Powell
Attn: Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St. SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: ET Docket No. 00-258

Dear Chairman Powell:

I am writing you to express our deep concern over the future of the Instructional Television Fixed Service (ITFS) spectrum. As you know, the ITFS spectrum has been targeted as a possible location for the development of 3rd Generation Cellular Service. I urge you to avoid relocation. As the FCC clearly noted in the Final Report released on March 30, 2001, the ITFS system is a constantly evolving system that could only be moved at the significant expense of the incumbent users.

Our ten school district telecommunications cooperative school district has been operating our ITFS system to provide low incidence educational programming for our member districts since the mid 1980s. I am certain that it will come as no surprise to you that recent technological advancements are reshaping the way teachers teach and students learn. Our consortium is just now finalizing plans to upgrade our system in order to provide wideband Internet access to 39 school buildings and the students and staff within them. In addition, by using Video over IP, we anticipate the opportunity to provide enhanced learning opportunities for our homebound students.

The day-to-day use of our ITFS system for instructional purposes is clearly going to increase. At the same time, we look forward with considerable anticipation to the day when we will have many megabits of downstream Internet capability.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Gary Wilkes

Gary L. Wilkes, Ph.D.
Director/CEO

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A vocational-technical secondary school serving the communities of Annandale, Becker, Big Lake, Buffalo, Delano, Howard Lake-Waverly-Winsted, Maple Lake, Monticello, Rockford, and St. Michael-Albertville.

NORTH ZULCH INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Educating Youth With Pride Since 1905

Crawford H. Helms, Ed.D.,
Superintendent of Schools

P.O. Box 158, North Zulch, TX 7787
Phone(936) 399-2821 FAX (936) 399-2025
chelms@esc6.net

April 11, 2001

Chairman Michael K. Powell
Attn: Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Re: ET Docket No. 00-258

Dear Chairman Powell:

I am writing today to express our concern over the future of the Instructional Television Fixed Service (ITFS) spectrum. The ITFS spectrum has been targeted as a possible location for the development of 3rd Generation Cellular Service. I urge you to avoid relocation.

We are currently using the ITFS system to enhance our every day curriculum instruction in an indirect manner. We are a small rural school district in central Texas and we are primarily dependent on state funding to operate our school. We do not currently use the ITFS spectrum but we do lease the channel space available to us and directly use this as a source of annual revenue to supplement the minimal state funds that are available to us for technology purchases and services. This allows us to provide extended services for the 350 students in our district. This year we have been able to use these funds for online computer driven curriculums to assist students in the 9th grade that need additional instruction, we have been able to assist several students that moved into our district from out of state to complete required courses and graduate on schedule (one earned $40,000.00 in scholarships). Our future technology plans include the possibility of using ITFS to provide dual credit college courses for our high school students in conjunction with a regional junior college.

It is evident to see the uses of this system in the day-to-day work in our classrooms. I urge that as the Commission searches for a location for the development of 3G services that it not come at the expense of the students in our schools.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Crawford H. Helms, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Author: nobody@w1.senate.gov at Internet
Date: 03/23/2001 10:24 PM
Normal
TO: webpage at Feingold-DC
Subject: Legislative Comment, Concern or Question
---------- Message Contents

A1= Mr.
B1= Kim
C1= Shady
D1= W13240 Penny Lane
E1=
F1= Ripon
G1= Wisconsin
H1= 54971
I1=
J1=
K1= kshady@charter.net
L1= In today's USA Today, there is a story about the FCC releasing frequencies to allow G3 development in the USA. A comment in the article claims there is not much demand for G3.

When brought to market for a fair price, there will be an overwhelming demand. I am the North America Sales Manager for Alliance Laundry Systems, Ripon, WI.

We have 125 sales people and everyone would be greatly improved with wireless web connections using G3

Wake the people at the FCC and realize there can't be demand today because they are holding back technology. If the FCC would open the airwaves for development, there will be an explosion that will look like the sales of Mobile phones and handheld computers like we have seen in the last few years. That kind of boom has to be good for the economy!

Don't allow the FCC to be so narrow focused!

Thanks for your consideration. No response required.

Kim Shady
North America Sales Manager
Alliance Laundry Systems