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COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY
COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2402

RECEIVED

July 10, 2001

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INTERNAL SECURITY DIVISION
DEPT. OF THE SECRETARY

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Mr. Michael Powell
Chairman
Federal Communication Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Mr. Powell:

I am writing to you regarding the review by the FCC of spectrum uses and the potential reallocation of the bands that could be used for 3G systems. I believe that we can find a prudent way to maximize the important public resource of spectrum. Specifically, the 1710-1850 MHz which is used by the Department of Defense holds unique potential for both the telecommunications industry and the Defense Department.

I was pleased to learn of your recent decision to postpone a rule-making proceeding in connection with some frequencies implicated in your review. That decision will give you more options and time to make important decisions related to our national security, federal budget and domestic telecommunications competitiveness.

The Defense Department is also reviewing its spectrum uses and assessing its long term communications requirements. I am hopeful that this analysis will lay the groundwork for a spectrum allocation solution that would be beneficial to all concerned parties.

I support a fair and thoughtful decision making process by the FCC which would modernize and improve national security capabilities, protect taxpayers, improve international competitiveness of the U.S. telecommunications industry and promote economic growth.

Sincerely,

Thad Cochran
THAD COCHRAN

United States Senator

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RECEIVED TIME JUL. 16. 5:07PM

PRINT TIME JUL. 16. 5:08PM