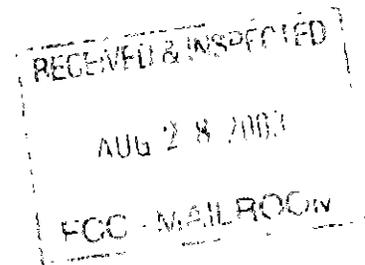


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Post Office Box 758 • Port Neches, Texas 77651

August 21, 2003



Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D. C. 20554

Dear Madam Secretary:

RE: In the Matter of Improving Public Safety Communications in the  
800 MHz Band; WT Docket No. 02-55 (Ex Parte)

The City of Port Neches, Texas is writing to express its opposition to Nextel's so-called "Consensus Plan". As discussed below in greater detail, we believe that the Consensus Plan will unnecessarily jeopardize Public Safety communication systems.

The City of Port Neches, Texas has licensed an 800 MHz communications system, which is used by our Fire and Police Departments. Nextel's proposal will adversely impact efforts to obtain interoperability communications with other Public Safety agencies as directed by the Federal Government. If this proposal is approved, our ability to assist federal agencies in providing homeland security will be adversely affected.

We are concerned that the Consensus Plan's relocation process is extremely complicated, and there is no guarantee that Public Safety licensees will be able to continually operate their communications systems during this process. Furthermore, it is unrealistic to expect all Public Safety licensees to relocate in 12 months or less given the complexity of some Public Safety systems.

Also, Public Safety licensees could be subject to more interference because the Consensus Plan protects Public Safety licensees only if they meet certain signal strength and receiver requirements. Because most Public Safety communication systems do

*[Handwritten signature]*

Madam Secretary Dortch  
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not meet these requirements, they will have to expend significant resources to ensure that they are protected from interference. Further, the interference situation could be worse if rebanding is not completed before Nextel's funding runs out.

In view of the above-stated problems with Nextel's plan, we urge the FCC to disapprove this proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Glenn Johnson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Glenn Johnson  
Mayor

mas

c: Senator John Cornyn  
Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison  
Congressman Nick Lampson