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The City of
Provo Utah

August 22, 2003

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Provo

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Lewis K. Billings
Mayor

RE: Docket 02-55

Dear Ms. Dortch:

The City of Provo would like to express its support for the "Consensus Plan" filed by public safety organizations, private wireless organizations, and Nextel, in the above-reference proceeding regarding interference to 800 MHz public safety systems.

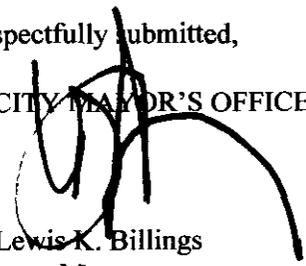
Provo is the second largest city in Utah and has been using 800 MHz radio systems for several years. We have experienced only limited interference to date, however, the constant expansion of cellular providers within the city and the ever-increasing need of our public safety agencies for bandwidth, will assuredly result in increasing interference. The fact that we are licensed on NPSPAC channels only makes this more likely.

Our other concern is that Provo might become financially responsible for mitigating this interference. With the "last in" responsible for this mitigation, this is certainly possible. Most cellular systems have been in place much longer than our new trunked systems. That means we must live with the interference or pay to fix it ourselves.

We believe that the Consensus Plan offers the only long-term solution to these problems. It will eliminate most interference to these critical systems and addresses the root cause of the interference rather than treating symptoms. Importantly, it provides for funding to implement the plan, rather than placing that burden on local government. And finally, it expands the available bandwidth for public safety and addresses this constantly growing need.

Respectfully submitted,

PROVO CITY MAYOR'S OFFICE


Lewis K. Billings
Mayor

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