

TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



January 17, 2004

DAVID FARABEE

Chairman Michael Powell
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: **WT 02-55** (*Public Safety Interference in the 800 MHz Band*)

Dear Chairman Powell,

As state representative for District 69 I am responsible for the welfare of more than 140,000 residents and the public safety offices that protect them. I know how critical public safety communication is to emergency response. Without clear, reliable communications, the safety of first responders, and the people they protect are at risk.

It has come to my attention that for more than two years, interference in the 800 MHz band has impeded first responders with garbled, lost and dropped calls. The Commission has pledged to the police, fire and EMS personnel across the country that resolving interference was of highest priority. It is my hope that you and your fellow Commissioners continue to focus on the Consensus Plan and strongly consider its implementation.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment and please never hesitate to contact my office with any inquiry important to you. I wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Farabee".

Representative David Farabee
Texas House of Representatives
District 69

CC:
Commissioner Abernathy
Commissioner Adelstein
Commissioner Copps
Commissioner Martin

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January 21, 2004

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

Re: Public Safety Interference In the 800 MHz Band (Docket # WT 02-55)

Dear Secretary Dortch,

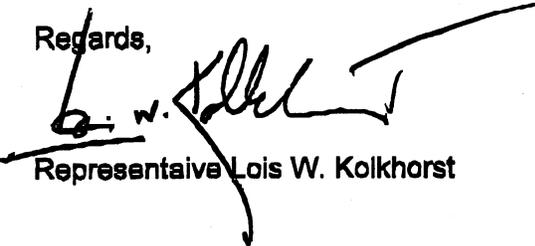
As the Texas House of Representative member serving Austin, Washington, Grimes and Walker Counties and working to protect 140,000 residents, I am very concerned with the issue of interference at 800 MHz. From what I understand, first responders nation-wide have been struggling with garbled or lost communications since 1999.

I know the Commission has been actively considering the most appropriate option to counteract this dangerous situation for the past two years. While I applaud your commitment to this matter, I also hope that you take immediate action.

The public safety community in Texas and across the country has voiced their support of the Consensus Plan. I feel this plan could permanently solve the problem of interference and provide mission critical spectrum for public safety's growing communications needs.

We are fortunate a tragedy has not yet occurred due to the 800 MHz. When the effectiveness of first responders is in jeopardy, we need to act without delay. I urge the Commission to implement the Consensus Plan.

Regards,


Representative Lois W. Kolkhorst

CC:
Commissioner Abernathy
Commissioner Adelstein
Commissioner Copps
Commissioner Martin

