

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20510

July 1, 2013

The Honorable Mignon Clyburn
Acting Chairwoman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Acting Chairwoman Clyburn:

We write to address the Federal Communications Commission's upcoming spectrum license auction and its possible impact on television viewers in Utah.

We laud the FCC for developing an incentive auction as a means to alleviate the usage constraints building in our wireless networks. As presently planned, the FCC will allow current licensees to relinquish their spectrum assignments so that the Commission can repackage and relicense the broadcast television bands to other commercial entities. As part of the plan, we are also hopeful that the FCC will design a robust bidding process open to all in order to generate the highest revenues possible as was envisioned by Congress.

We recognize that this program is essential to America's future. Our use of wireless technology has increased astronomically in the last decade, and our use of wireless networks will only continue to rise. If nothing is done, America's economic and technological development will stagnate; we will lose productivity, and our infrastructure will be unable to support our technology-based society.

As important as the incentive auctions will be, we respectfully ask that the Commission take into account the impact each auction may have on the 54 million Americans, including more than 250,000 households in Utah, that rely exclusively on broadcast television to obtain newscasts, public service announcements, and entertainment content and work to protect the free market principles that will best accomplish the important objective of ensuring that spectrum is put to its best and most efficient use.

Utah has many rural communities which rely heavily on broadcast television to obtain critical information. Our state's reliance on broadcast television is particularly underscored by the fact that Utah uses 753 active translators to relay signals, none of which are owned by private entities. We are concerned that the spectrum repackaging may have a detrimental impact on the ability of these communities to receive broadcast television, especially in cases of severe weather or emergencies.

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We commend the Commission for moving forward with the incentive auctions and hope the program will relieve the pressing needs of businesses, communities, and individuals. In moving forward, however, we strongly encourage the FCC to give meaningful attention to the Americans who are served by broadcast television, especially those living in rural areas, as it moves forward with the rulemaking process.

Sincerely,




Senator Michael S. Lee



Senator Orrin G. Hatch



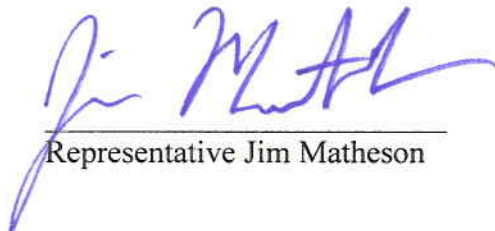
Representative Rob Bishop



Representative Jason Chaffetz



Representative Chris Stewart



Representative Jim Matheson