September 7, 2012

Chairman Julius Genachowski  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

We are writing to you with respect to the television broadcast incentive auction that Congress authorized as part of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012. As you know, Congress adopted this measure to permit those television licensees that want to exit the broadcast business to do so voluntarily, thereby freeing up frequencies that could then be reallocated for wireless broadband services.

While increasing the amount of spectrum allocated to wireless broadband fulfills an important national goal, it is equally important that the Federal Communications Commission protects the ability of the public to continue to receive over-the-air television signals from those television stations that will continue to provide service to our constituents after the auction is over.

Freeing up spectrum to increase the amount available for wireless broadband services is important. But all Americans deserve to know whether the Commission’s repacking plan will affect their ability to continue receiving television signals from stations that do not participate in the auction. We urge the Commission to be transparent in its rulemaking process.

We thank you for your attention to this request, and look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Rep. Marsha Blackburn  
Sen. Lamar Alexander

Rep. Diane Black  
Rep. Steve Cohen

Rep. Jim Cooper  
Sen. Bob Corker