

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

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October 28, 2019

The Honorable Ajit Pai  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Pai:

We write to urge the Commission to reach a final disposition in regards to Ligado Networks' license modification applications for use of 40 MHz of L-band spectrum. Given the length of time the Commission has had to consider the applications, we expect this matter to be resolved no later than the end of calendar year 2019.

Since 2011, we have followed developments in regards to terrestrial use of the L-band for commercial wireless services. In December 2015, Ligado Networks filed its license modification applications with the Commission, and since then, it has made additional commitments to relinquish spectrum, expand guard bands, lower power limits, reduce out-of-band emissions, and compensate certain parties to ensure its commercial mobile services do not interfere with other spectrum users.

Over 1,200 days later, we are concerned with the Commission's inability to conclude this matter. On June 25, 2019, Ligado Networks filed a Request for Prompt Commission Action Under Section 7 of the Communications Act. As the federal government's expert agency on spectrum matters, we expect an up-or-down decision based on the engineering evidence regarding these license modification applications.

The Commission has a duty to be responsive to entities looking to utilize electromagnetic spectrum for commercial purposes. Unleashing additional spectrum for mobile broadband is a key priority in maintaining American leadership vis-à-vis China, particularly for mid-band spectrum such as this. The Commission has had ample time to review the record and decide whether to approve Ligado Networks' license modification applications.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to the Commission's decision on Ligado Networks' applications no later than the end of calendar year 2019.

Sincerely,



Marsha Blackburn  
United States Senator



Mark R. Warner  
United States Senator