

February 23, 2012

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

**RE: IB Docket No. 11-109**

Dear Secretary Dortch:

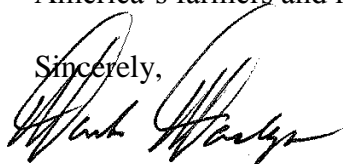
The American Farm Bureau Federation believes high-speed broadband services have great potential to bring opportunity to rural Americans, but those opportunities should not jeopardize the global positioning system (GPS). Farm Bureau represents more than 6 million families, many of whom rely on GPS as an integral part of their farming businesses through the use of precision agriculture.

The accuracy of GPS is what that makes it useful to farm and ranch operations. Disruption to GPS has the potential to reduce farm profitability by raising production costs and affecting farm and ranch operations. Precision agriculture using GPS allows farmers and ranchers to run efficient, economical and environmentally conscious operations. Farmers use GPS for accurate mapping of field boundaries, roads and irrigation systems; precision planting; and targeting the application of fertilizer and chemicals that combat weeds and crop diseases. GPS also allows farmers to work despite low-visibility field conditions such as rain, dust, fog and darkness.

In the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) report, NTIA concluded that interference between GPS receivers and LightSquared's proposed network continues to be an issue. Farm Bureau asks the FCC to withdraw LightSquared's conditional waiver, since the interference issue was not resolved.

Farm Bureau appreciates the work of the FCC to provide rural America with high-speed broadband services. While the deployment of broadband services is important to economic development, better education and improved health services in rural America, the use of precision agriculture is also vital to America's farmers and ranchers as they continue to feed, fuel and clothe the world.

Sincerely,



Mark Maslyn  
Executive Director  
Public Policy