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June 10, 2011

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: In the Matter of LightSquared Subsidiary LLC Request for Modification of its Authority for an Ancillary Terrestrial Component; SAT-MOD-20101118-00239

Dear Ms. Dortch:

I very much appreciate this opportunity to comment on what could be one of the most significant communications developments in the Rocky Mountain West. The satellite network being developed by LightSquared offers much of the country improvements in what is already there – but in parts of the west, it offers a communications option where there is nothing now. Think of Native American communities who do not even have basic cellphone service now but would with this network.

I operate a blogsite in the Colorado high country and can tell you that even in relatively well-connected areas, both cell service and Internet are not up to par with other parts of the country. And, of course, most studies put the United States well behind our competitors in terms of broadband access and use. Sometimes, I wonder if all this communication is all that great for our culture, but I also believe that everyone should have that choice for themselves. I also know that the next time an electrical storm knocks out the phones and electricity, it would be good to have the option of uplinking via satellite. Or if my car breaks down on a deserted road I can always have cell service.

The FCC should not limit its consideration to impacts on urban areas, even though faster, cheaper broadband would no doubt be an improvement for our inner cities. I would ask the commission to keep the entire country in mind, and realize that the United States needs to make decisions that increase our competitive advantages while connecting communities that have been left out for too long.

Sincerely,

/s/ Anita Thompson

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