

September 12, 2014

Reginald Moody-Humchitt  
Central Coast Regional District  
626 Cliff Street - Box 186  
Bella Coola, BC V0T 1C0

*Sent to all directors*



RECEIVED

SEP 16 2014

Re: Industry Canada 3500 MHz Spectrum Consultation

Good day Reginald Moody-Humchitt

Central Coast Regional District

We are writing to you to inform you of an important consultation that has been put forward by Industry Canada to determine the future use of radio spectrum in the 3400 to 3800 GHz bands. ABC and other ISPs across Canada use this band to provide fixed wireless high speed Internet services to rural Canadians. Through this consultation Industry Canada is seeking input from Canadians regarding how this spectrum can repurposed to provide enhanced mobile cellular services to Canada's urban population, while preserving the use of the spectrum for rural Canadians' high speed Internet services.

As part of the proposed solution, Industry Canada is proposing that some Tier-4 service areas be classified as urban, and the remaining areas as rural. In urban-designated Tier-4 areas, operators such as ABC will be ordered to cease using this spectrum in favour of auctioning the spectrum to Canada's mobile operators.

In rural-designated Tier-4 areas, operators such as ABC will not have their existing wide-area long-term licences renewed, and will instead have access to short-term licences over limited areas. This loss of assured access to spectrum will directly result in a reduction of investment by ABC for rural broadband in these areas.

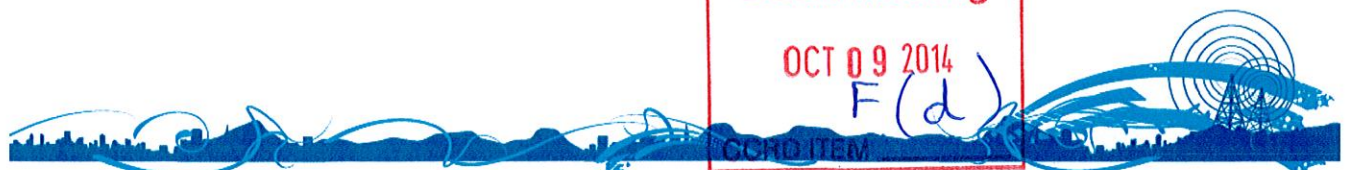
Should this proposal become policy, ABC will be required to shut down transmitters operating in these bands in urban-designated regions. In rural-designated regions, such as Prince George Tier4, ABC's loss of long-term spectrum licences will directly impact our investment decisions. The infrastructure required to provide reliable urban-grade broadband services in rural areas requires many years to produce a viable return on investment. Under the proposed policy, ABC's investment will be reduced, resulting in a deterioration of service quality in rural areas.

As Industry Canada is in the consultation stage at this time we encourage you to write to Industry Canada before October 8<sup>th</sup>, recommending that the existing 3500 MHz licences be extended for a further ten-year licence term. Your comments to Industry Canada on this matter will directly impact the future of rural broadband in this country and for the rural

Board Meeting

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citizens in your region. We have attached on page three a sample letter for you to consider as your submission to Industry Canada.

To read more on the consultation process, please visit:

<http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/smt-gst.nsf/eng/sf10841.html>

Your comments should be emailed to [spectrum.operations@ic.gc.ca](mailto:spectrum.operations@ic.gc.ca) by October 8, 2014.

If you would like to learn more about this issue, please do not hesitate to contact me with any question you may have.

Thank you for taking the time to participate in this important political process.

Sincerely,



Falko Kadenbach  
Vice President  
ABC Communications