

Brookfield Fire Department

PO BOX 128
Brookfield, Nova Scotia B0N 1C0

April 20, 2006

Director General
Telecommunications Policy Branch
Industry Canada
300 Slater St
Ottawa Ontario K1A 0C8

Re: Canada Gazette, Part I, December 2005, Notice Reference# DGTP-004-05

Proposals and Changes to the Spectrum in Certain Band Below 1,7 Ghz
Part 6 Multi-use radio (MURS) in the 150 MHz Band

The Brookfield Fire Department wishes to go on record as being unconditionally opposed to the Industry Canada proposal regarding MURS in the 150 MHz band. It is totally unreasonable for Industry Canada to expect licensed public safety users of assigned frequencies to replace or reprogram their radio equipment to accommodate a new spectrum application for unlicensed users with no compensation for their costs.

It is our position that if Industry Canada wishes to accommodate the MURS on the stated 150 MHz frequencies then Industry Canada must provide sufficient funding to the affected parties to undertake the necessary radio reprogramming or replacement as required. This would include not only the two-way radio equipment impacted but, also the numerous voice pocket pagers that are tuned to receive the same frequencies used for emergency service responder notification.

It is not appropriate to impose such costs on affected parties which pay a license fee to operate those assigned frequencies because commercial and recreational users wish to use them. The approach of Industry Canada to reconfigure the spectrum to accommodate new users because of decisions of the United States FCC at the expense of existing licensed users is a dereliction of duty.

Sincerely,

Rod Nielsen
Fire Chief

Brookfield Fire Department