

— City of —  
**Weyburn**

(306) 848-3200

Office of The  
Fire Chief



25 April 2006

Telecommunications Policy Branch  
Industry Canada  
300 Slater Street  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0C8

**Attention:** Mr. Larry Shaw, Director General

Dear Mr. Shaw;

**RE: 150 MHz Bandwidth**

I find it extremely disturbing that at a time when the threat to our citizens from events such as terrorism, weather related disasters, increases in transportation of dangerous goods and other such threats, your department would even consider removing a known working technology from the hands of emergency services workers. This bandwidth has been used successfully throughout Saskatchewan and across Canada to page volunteer firefighters to emergency scenes, communicate from the scene to the dispatch agencies and to communicate with other services operating on the scene.

Currently we use the 150 MHz bandwidth for paging our volunteers and for communicating with surrounding mutual aid fire departments. We use the FleetNet800 system for our day to day operations, on scene communications and communications with our police department.

Over the past year, we have been informed by SaskTel that the FleetNet800 network will be shut down and dismantled and to this point in time, we have no provincial network in place to take on the needs of emergency services. With the removal of the 150 MHz bandwidth, our options will be extremely limited. I believe that removing any portion of this bandwidth from the emergency services will be a step backwards and will cause numerous problems resulting in injuries and/or death to our responders and the people we protect.

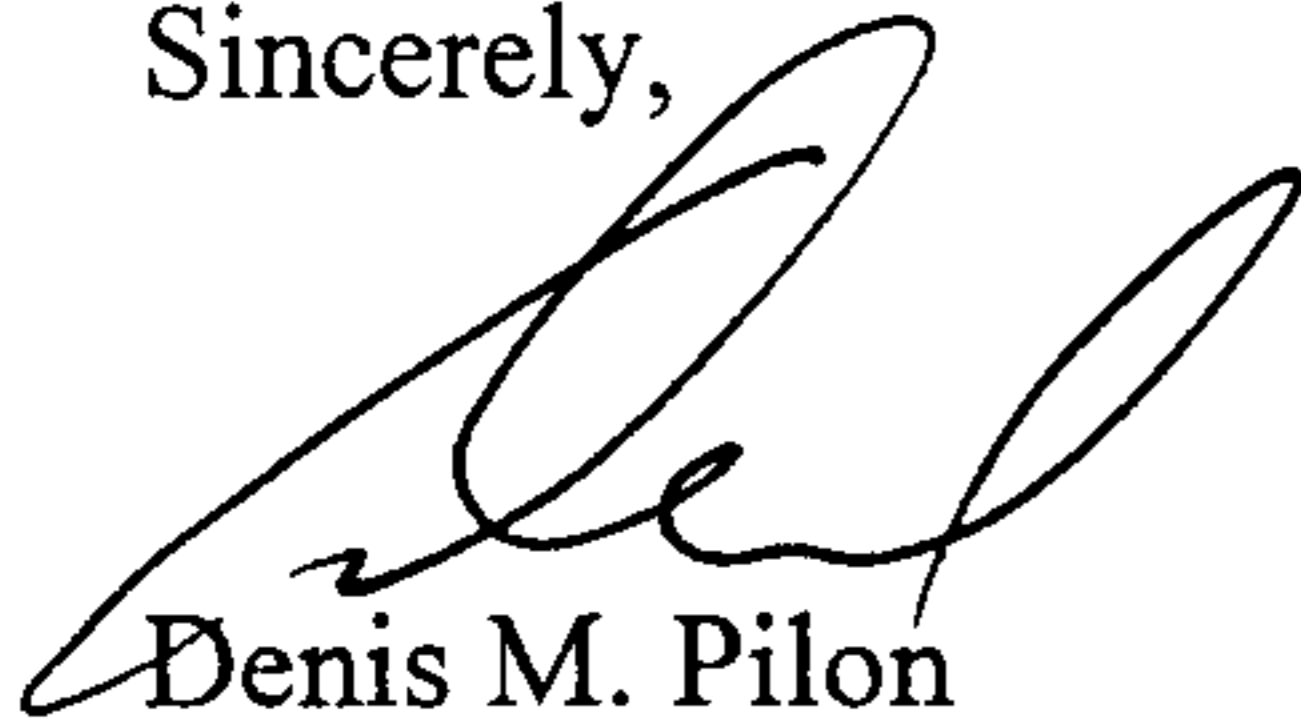
As we look to upgrading our current communications needs, we believe that the 150 MHz bandwidth will be a major component of our communications network in and around our City.

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Phone 306-848-3240 • Fax 306-842-1766 • [www.weyburn.ca](http://www.weyburn.ca)  
***“Working Smoke Detectors Save Lives”***



I support the Canadian Association of Fire Chiefs Position Paper on your document "Proposals and Changes to the Spectrum in Certain Bandwidths Below 1.7 GHz" and strongly urge you to reconsider opening the 150 MHz bandwidth for public use.

Sincerely,



Denis M. Pilon  
Fire Chief

cc. Ed Komarnicki, MP  
CAFC