

June 19, 2006

Sent to [wireless@ic.gc.ca](mailto:wireless@ic.gc.ca)

Larry Shaw  
Director General  
Telecommunications Policy Branch,  
Industry Canada,  
300 Slater Street,  
Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0C8.

Dear Mr. Shaw:

***Re: Proposed Changes to Radio Spectrum Below 1.7 GHz***

AMO is very concerned about the proposed changes to the 150 MHz radio frequency outlined in Section Six of the *Proposals and Changes to the Spectrum in Certain Bands Below 1.7 GHz* discussion paper. We feel opening up this frequency to the private sector will negatively impact the ability of fire and emergency services to maintain mandatory service levels. Overloading this radio frequency will force municipalities to require expensive changes to municipal fire department communication systems. This poses a threat to public safety here in Ontario. If this proposal is approved, the Multi-Use Radio Systems will generate radio interference for many fire departments and will require some departments to move their communications to other frequencies. Many municipal fire departments will be directly impacted – the same departments that are currently struggling to finance the services they are mandated to provide by the provincial government.

Merely making another frequency available will not help municipalities, as this will result in a huge financial impact in terms of the costs of the new radio equipment (old equipment may not work on the new frequency) or to reprogram existing equipment.

AMO urges you to reconsider the proposed change in order to preserve the integrity of Ontario's municipal emergency services.

Yours truly,



Roger Anderson  
AMO President

