

Doug Sward  
Industry Canada  
300 Slater Street, Room 1913A  
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0C8

Subject:  
Support for allocation of 5.4-5.7 GHz band for License Exempt FWA.

26 April 2002

Greetings Doug,

I am writing to express my strong support for the opening up of the 5.4-5.7 GHz frequency band for the delivery of broadband Fixed Wireless Access (FWA) services. The demand for broadband services has been steadily growing in recent years and is poised to increase dramatically in the near future as Internet content becomes richer (delivering not only high speed data, but also voice and video) and more interactive. Fixed wireless access provides a uniquely cost effective means of delivering these services to business and residential subscribers, providing a competitive offering to existing wire line (copper/cable/fiber) networks and opportunities for broadband connectivity to underserved markets throughout urban and rural areas.

We have already witnessed the positive impact license exempt channels have had on the consumer market in the past, providing broadband connectivity to users who previously had no choice. An example is the 2.4 GHz band, which has experienced such profound growth, that the channels have already reached or exceeded capacity in many regions of the globe, underlining the critical need for additional spectrum to address consumer demand.

A particular advantage of the 5.4-5.7 GHz band is that it can reuse many of the electronic components already developed for the 5.7-5.8 GHz band, representing a significant advantage with respect to time-to-market and manufacturing volume discounts, which is critical to us as vendors. This band also harmonizes with licensed exempt bands reserved for FWA markets in other countries, such as Europe, providing further opportunities for technology synergism. Finally, the 5.4-5.7 GHz band represents one of the few bands remaining that can support non line of sight propagation, a critical requirement for mass-market deployments.

In brief, the allocation of 5.4-5.7 GHz for license exempt FWA services represents a significant opportunity, which will ultimately benefit consumers. I hope the Department will give this letter consideration in its deliberation over this matter.

Sincerely,

Keith Doucet  
VP Marketing  
Redline Communications  
90 Tiverton Court, Suite 102  
Markham, Ontario  
L3R 9V2  
Ph: (905) 479-8344 Ext 298  
Fax: (905) 479-7432