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Before
The U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on
Communications and Technology

“Challenges and Opportunities in the 5 GHz Spectrum Band”

November 13, 2013

Additional Questions for the Record

The Honorable Steve Scalise

1. You state in your testimony that “permitting additional shared use requires significant collaboration with stakeholders to enable non-interfering shared use of the spectrum.” Can you elaborate what type of collaboration will definitely ensure that a plan will not interfere with incumbents?

Answer: The Commission has not proposed to take away any incumbent user’s right to operate as a licensed service in the 5 GHz band. As with all unlicensed services, U-NII devices may not cause harmful interference to licensed services, and must accept any harmful interference that they receive. It is our hope that all parties will work together in good faith to overcome the technical and policy challenges to find a way to effectively share spectrum in the 5 GHz band.

Sharing often works best when there is direct dialogue between the incumbent services and the parties hoping to introduce new products and services. I am pleased that parties both within the private sector and various government agencies are directly communicating and considering potential sharing solutions. The Commission welcomes these efforts, and will continue to engage with all interested parties and carefully review potential technical solutions.

2. From a spectrum propagation perspective, can you talk about potential interference by expanding unlicensed use from indoor use to outdoor use as well?