

November 18, 2021

Mr. Brian Deese, Director
National Economic Council
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Director Deese:

We write to you today representing the breadth of companies in this country and around the world supporting 5G deployment and technology advancement in the United States. Our member companies have invested billions of dollars in developing the equipment and technologies necessary to make 5G a reality in this country and around the world. Our member companies also understand the importance of rapid deployment of 5G networks in the U.S., including networks utilizing C-Band spectrum. Further delays in launching C-Band could have serious consequences for our nation's ability to leverage the economic growth associated with 5G, which is why we are asking that the Administration reject calls to hold up U.S. 5G C-Band operations beyond January 5, 2022.

According to a recent Boston Consulting Group (BCG) report, 5G will be an economic multiplier for the nation that will bring 4.5 million new U.S. jobs and \$1.5 trillion to the economy by 2030. But the success of our collective efforts and investments in 5G technologies hinge, in part, on the C-Band spectrum. That same BCG report concluded that every six-month delay in deployment could cost our nation \$25 billion in economic benefits from these next-generation services. Delays in deploying C-Band for 5G could have cascading effects for the companies we represent, causing manufacturing delays, stranding research and development investments, and potentially impacting our employees. And these continued last-minute objections to wireless technology advancement in the U.S. could threaten the ability of our member companies to make the long-term investments necessary to support future wireless innovation in the U.S.

Experts around the world have determined that 5G in C-Band and radio altimeters can coexist safely, and real world deployments confirm that. After 17 years of global study, a multi-year public rulemaking proceeding, and interagency dialogue across all relevant federal agencies, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) determined that 5G services in C-Band spectrum would not cause harmful interference to aircraft operations. And as our member companies know well, C-Band networks are in operation around the world, and the aviation industry and international regulators have reported no adverse effects on flight safety. Second guessing the FCC's determination now – weeks before C-Band 5G is launched in the U.S. – is not supported by the evidence and contrary to the U.S. legal framework for spectrum management.

Our industries are eager to accelerate the benefits that C-Band will bring to U.S. consumer welfare, to job creation and the GDP, and to our global competitiveness. The U.S. must be the international leader in 5G, and our member companies are working to make that happen. But ad hoc wireless policymaking unsupported by facts challenges our nation's ability to lead. Other countries, spectrum experts, and the FCC have concluded that access to C-Band is imperative, and that aviation safety is

not threatened. Further delays in the U.S. must be avoided, and the Administration should take whatever steps necessary to make sure the wireless companies' January launch plans go forward.

Sincerely,



CC:
Bharat Ramamurti, Deputy Director, NEC
Tim Wu, Special Assistant to the President, NEC
Lisa Hone, Senior Advisor, NEC