

The Honorable Michael Powell
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Re: ET Docket No. 98-153 -- Revision of Part 15 of the Commission's Rules Regarding Ultra-Wideband Transmission Systems

Ex Parte Communication

Dear Chairman Powell:

As technology companies that share an interest in using ultra-wideband (UWB) technology in our products, we are writing you regarding the Commission's removal of the ultra-wideband (UWB) item from its December 12, 2001, open meeting agenda. We appreciate your commitment to resolve the process in February. We are concerned that a short delay could be extended, which in turn would be a substantial setback to the timely development and deployment of UWB services. This could have a negative impact on current industry momentum focused on building UWB technology and products.

This proceeding is more than three years old with almost 800 comments, notices, and technical studies on the docket. UWB proponents have filed detailed technical analyses showing that operation of their devices will not cause harmful interference to other users of the spectrum, both government and non-government. These analyses also explain why studies that purport to show harmful interference gave incorrect results. It is time to issue a decision.

The prompt adoption of rules is necessary not only to bring the benefits of this technology to consumers, but also to respond constructively to increasing interest from the military in UWB technology as reflected by the recent DARPA NETEX BAA. We urge you to issue the UWB report and order at the earliest possible date, and no later than the date indicated at your open meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin C. Kahn, Intel Fellow, Director, Communications & Interconnect Technology Lab, Intel Corp.
Steven W. Stewart, Director, Public Affairs, IBM Corporation
John K. Boidock, Vice President, Government Relations, Texas Instruments
Dr. Ken Gray, Director, Multimedia Communications Dept., Sharp Labs of America
Gregg Ward, Vice President, Government Relations, Siemens Corporation

cc: Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy
Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Kevin J. Martin