

**Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20554**

In the Matter of)
)
Modernizing and Expanding Access) WT Docket No. 20-133
to the 70/80/90 GHz Bands)

**COMMENTS OF THE
NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION ADMINISTRATION**

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), in support of the National Science Foundation (NSF), the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the Department of Commerce (DOC), and the Department of Air Force (DAF), provides the attached comments in response to the *Public Notice* in the above-captioned rulemaking docket to supplement the Commission’s record on use of the 71-76 GHz, 81-86 GHz, 92-94 GHz, and the 94.1-95 GHz (70/80/90 GHz) bands for rural broadband access.¹ The Public Notice in particular sought comment on the use of High Altitude Platform Stations (HAPS) in these bands.

Among the points raised in the attached comments, submitted herewith in their entirety, are as follows:

- The attached comments note that the Public Notice did not address provisions or requirements that would protect incumbent Science Services operating in adjacent bands, including passive operations.

¹ *Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Seeks to Supplement the Record on 70/80/90 GHz Bands Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, Public Notice, DA 21-1263, WT Docket No. 20-133 (rel. Oct. 8, 2021) (*Public Notice*).

- The attached comments highlight a variety of extensive and important federal uses of the 70/80/90 GHz bands.
- NSF's comments explain that federal operations in the bands are important to radio astronomy, noting that many critical molecular spectral lines are observable in these bands and concluding that its initial analysis indicates that the 92-94 and 94.1-95 GHz bands should be eliminated from consideration.

Respectfully submitted,



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ATTACHMENT 1

Comments of

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration

Department of Commerce

Department of the Air Force

ATTACHMENT 2
Comments of
The National Science Foundation