Before the Federal Communications Commission Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of)	
Petition for Rulemaking and Request for)	
Emergency Stay of Operation of Dedicated Short-)	
Range Communications Service in the 5.850-)	
5.9925 GHz Band (5.9 GHz Band))	RM-11771
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	/	

To: The Commission

Comments of Consumer Federation of America Consumers Union Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety Center for Auto Safety

Jack Gillis	William C. Wallace
Mark Cooper	George P. Slover
Consumer Federation of America	Consumers Union
1620 I St. NW, Suite 200	1101 17th St. NW, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20006	Washington, DC 20036
Jaqueline Gillan	Clarence Ditlow
Henry Jasny	Center for Auto Safety

Henry Jasny Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety 750 First St NE, Suite 1130 Washington, DC 20002 Center for Auto Safety 1825 Connecticut Ave NW, Suite 330 Washington, DC 20009

Stakeholders have raised many questions, concerns and issues surrounding the allocation of 75 MHz of spectrum to the auto industry for uses related to intelligent transportation services, including Dedicated Short Range Communications (DSRC). The intent of this allocation is to facilitate the implementation of technology designed to stem the tragic and expensive toll that vehicle crashes take on both individuals and public

1

health. To that end, we support its use for non-commercial, safety-related communications.

As various technological issues are worked out for the use of the 5.9 GHz band, we make the following recommendations:

- 1. There should be dedicated and adequate spectrum available exclusively for safety purposes. The current allocation of 75 MHz may be more than is necessary, and an impartial determination should be made as to what amount is needed solely for safety purposes.
- Auto manufacturers must be required to meet baseline, enforceable standards to protect the privacy and security of communications technologies using this dedicated band as they deploy them.
- 3. The commercial use of this dedicated safety spectrum must be prohibited. We are concerned that the use of commercial applications in this band could:
 - a. Threaten safety by increasing driver distractions, which are already a leading cause of auto crashes;
 - b. Increase the risk of privacy violations and security compromises; and
 - c. Be anti-competitive and counter to public ownership principles and the efficiency and flexibility of the spectrum.