

June 16, 2015

Globalstar, a mobile satellite services company based in Covington Louisiana, is pleased to be part of a broad, major innovative movement regarding spectrum and mobile broadband services. We hope that government policy makers will enable all organizations, and not just large players with significant lobbying forces, to provide new innovations.

The FCC's proposed rules regarding Terrestrial Low Power Service ("TLPS") would allow Globalstar to bring a new, differentiated wireless broadband offering to the public – more choices for consumers; more competition. But this new service will not be alone.

On April 22, Google announced a new mobile service offering called Project Fi, a service that toggles between licensed and unlicensed spectrum using a network of millions of Wi-Fi hotspots to offer an integrated wireless broadband service. On June 2, Microsoft accidentally released information regarding its plans for an expanded Microsoft Wi-Fi service, in which Microsoft will charge customers a per minute rate to use millions of publicly available Wi-Fi hotspots around the world. And, of course, there are cable's highly publicized plans to expand their networks of millions of Wi-Fi access points that they will monetize by providing wireless services to their customer base using a combination of unlicensed spectrum and MVNO agreements.

While Globalstar believes that competition is good and welcomes these developments, these large players aren't supporting Globalstar's entry into a marketplace which they dominate. Not surprising, each has raised various issues in an attempt to unnecessarily delay or block Globalstar's ability to compete and offer consumers another choice for wireless services.

Neither Google nor Microsoft informed the FCC -- when making their filings -- that they were planning to offer new, competing services to Globalstar's TLPS. Nevertheless, they should be congratulated for continuing to innovate and find new and exciting ways to meet the communications needs of consumers and reward their shareholders. We believe innovation and consumer benefits are often driven by small companies challenging the large, and that this will result in robust competition which will continue to drive the evolution of the wireless sector.

