On behalf of the International Center for Law & Economics, I offer the following reply comments in support of the Federal Communications Commission’s (FCC) Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) to expand and enhance the use of the 5.850 – 5.925 GHz spectrum band.

In previously submitted comments, I offered support for the FCC’s proposed reallocation of the lower 45 MHz of the 5.9 GHz band based on the spectrum’s current underuse relative to its value in the context of Wi-Fi. Since those comments were submitted, subsequent studies have estimated that opening the lower 45 MHz of the 5.9 GHz band would result in $28.14 billion in economic value by 2025. These findings lend further support to the FCC’s proposed plan of action. Yet, opposition from elements of the transportation sector persists. Those opponents have offered, broadly, four justifications for delaying, modifying and/or abandoning elements of the FCC’s 5.9 GHz NPRM. ICLE’s reply comments will address and rebut each, in turn.

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