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May 6, 2020

The Hon. James Inhofe
Chairman
U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Hon. Jack Reed
Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Inhofe and Ranking Member Reed:

The 31 national associations and labor unions of the Transportation Construction Coalition (TCC), write to express our concern with the Federal Communications Commission's (FCC) April 20 acceptance of Ligado's application to provide 5G services nationwide. Specifically, the TCC opposes Ligado's proposed network as it would interfere with Global Positioning Systems (GPS) and other signals used in and around transportation construction sites.

New and innovative machines that require signals are critical to the productivity, efficiency, and safety of construction sites. Increasingly, technology is used to survey construction sites, including the location of buried and overhead utilities, to facilitate precision grading, and to enhance material application. It is also used to prevent theft of construction equipment and provide real-time monitoring for equipment maintenance. These technologies, from major pieces of construction equipment to overhead drones, help reduce project delays, reduce fuel consumption, and support a more efficient construction site.

Available data shows significant interference from Ligado's proposed network to many existing GPS receivers. Such interference with existing signals would be disruptive to the many benefits GPS and other signals bring to construction sites.

We do not object to the goals of increasing wireless data capacity and competition for 5G, but the expedition of the permit granted to Ligado is not the way to accomplish these goals. The risks to GPS far outweigh the incremental benefits gained from allowing Ligado to move forward. The FCC's action should be stayed indefinitely.

We thank you for your support on this issue and urge your continued active engagement to protect GPS use in construction sites.

Sincerely,

The Transportation Construction Coalition