



United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0905

BILL NELSON
FLORIDA

October 9, 2014

The Honorable Tom Wheeler
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

I write today to commend you for convening the October 14, 2014, workshop with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) staff to explore ways to improve tower climber safety and reduce fatalities involving work on communications towers.

Between 2003 and 2014, there were 10 deaths in the State of Florida involving falls from communications towers – the highest number of any state. These tragic losses are a reminder of the potentially dangerous nature of this work and the need for oversight in this area. Through this workshop, I hope that FCC and OSHA staff will work with industry, labor, and other stakeholders to reduce the rate of injuries and deaths.

Thank you again for your attention to this issue. I look forward to seeing the results of this collaborative effort in the near future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bill Nelson".