Information for Policymakers from the National Coordination Office for Space-Based Positioning, Navigation, and Timing (PNT)

Late June 2011

Appropriators Slash \$98M from GPS III Program, Add \$40M to GPS Block IIF

The House Appropriations Committee passed its defense spending bill on June 14, cutting FY 2012 funds from the next-generation GPS space and control segments, while adding money to the current GPS IIF satellite buy. The committee also rescinded \$122.5 million in FY 2011 procurement funds for GPS III, consistent with recent program/schedule changes. For details, visit http://www.pnt.gov/policy/legislation/funding/2012.shtml.

FY 2012 Line Item	Request	Committee Mark	Difference
Development: GPS IIF and Control Segment	\$17.893 million	\$17.893 million	0
Development: GPS III Satellites	\$463.081 million	\$413.081 million	-\$50 million
Development: Next Generation Control Segment	\$390.889 million	\$342.889 million	-\$48 million
Procurement: GPS IIF Satellites	\$67.689 million	\$107.689 million	+\$40 million
Procurement: GPS III Satellites	\$515.337 million	\$515.337 million	0
Procurement: Other	\$7.6 million	\$7.6 million	0
TOTAL	\$1.462 billion	\$1.404 billion	-\$58 million

Hearing Highlights GPS Interference Threat from LightSquared Network

The House Aviation and Maritime Transportation Subcommittees held a joint hearing on June 23 to discuss the potential loss of GPS services if the



FCC allows LightSquared Subsidiary LLC to operate its high-powered, wireless broadband communications network as currently planned. Senior Defense, Transportation, and Coast Guard officials and several industry leaders warned that the GPS interference from LightSquared's system could disrupt military, civil, and commercial operations nationwide, including aviation, shipping, search and rescue, E911, farming, and communications. LightSquared, the GPS community, and the FCC have yet to agree upon a mutually acceptable solution to the problem. To view the hearing testimony, visit http://transportation.house.gov/hearings/.



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LightSquared Test Results Delayed to July 1

On June 15, LightSquared was expected to release a highly anticipated report assessing its interference to GPS users and identifying mitigation options. Instead, the FCC, which ordered the study, granted the company a two-week extension. The FCC has indicated their intent to collect and review public comments on the report before deciding whether to allow LightSquared to operate its terrestrial network. Test data released by other groups demonstrate broad GPS interference from LightSquared; to view, visit http://www.pnt.gov/interfererence/lightsquared/.

Energy and Commerce Members Weigh In on LightSquared Interference Concern

In a June 14 letter to FCC Chairman Julius Genachowski, Reps. Charles Bass (R-NH), Phil Gingrey (R-GA), and Brett Guthrie (R-KY) from the House Communications and Technology Subcommittee echoed previous calls for a public comment period on LightSquared's GPS test results. They urged the FCC to terminate the company's terrestrial authorization if the test results and comments fail to conclusively demonstrate no harmful interference to GPS.

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