



# STATE OF MINNESOTA

## Office of Governor Mark Dayton

130 State Capitol ♦ 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard ♦ Saint Paul, MN 55155

October 4, 2017

Mr. Mike Poth  
Chief Executive Officer  
First Responder Network Authority  
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, M/S 243  
Reston, VA 20192

Re: Deployment of the Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network as Proposed  
by the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet)

Dear Mr. Poth:

This letter is to notify you that the State of Minnesota has decided to participate in the deployment of the nationwide, interoperable broadband network as proposed in the FirstNet State Plan, pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 1442(e)(2)(A). The State of Minnesota has participated in FirstNet consultation and outreach activities throughout the planning of the network and reviewed the details of the FirstNet State Plan. I have determined that, notwithstanding any additional information to be provided under 47 U.S.C. § 1442(e)(1) of the Act, it is in the best interest of Minnesota and the Country to participate in the FirstNet deployment of the Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Dayton".

Mark Dayton  
Governor



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First Responder Network Authority  
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, M/S 243  
Reston, VA 20192

Dear Mr. Poth

Thank you for your work with my Administration to develop a State Plan for FirstNet in Minnesota. I appreciate the attention to detail and your responsiveness to the concerns and priorities we have established for our state and its first responders.

I understand that your role is to develop and implement the First Network Responder's Act, and it was not your decision to assign the final decision to opt-in or out to me. As such, I ask you to acknowledge the 11 Federally Recognized Minnesota tribes as sovereign nations and, recognizing this sovereignty, enter into consultation with them. I urge you to work with the tribes so that they fully understand any environmental impact to their land and whether or not the FirstNet network would be beneficial to their citizens.

In the State Portal, it says:

"Builds are displayed for illustrative purposes to represent a general geographic area; actual latitude/longitude site locations cannot be provided until several steps occur, including formal land acquisition and build approval processes. Should the actual site locations vary materially from that shown here, AT&T will coordinate with the First Responder Network Authority and the State regarding alternative site location(s)."

I understand this to mean that FirstNet and AT&T will act in good faith with the tribes to ensure they are able to make an informed decision regarding the needs of their communities. While my Administration identified additional towers to address coverage gaps on tribal lands, the placement of towers on tribal lands requires tribal consent.

As you have worked to ensure Minnesota has the best network and services available for first responders, I trust you will do the same in consultation with the tribes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Dayton".

Mark Dayton  
Governor