

# Town of Pomfret

March 12, 2015

The Honorable Dora B. Schriro  
Commissioner, Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection  
Division of Statewide Emergency Telecommunications  
1111 Country Club Road  
Middletown, Connecticut 06457

Re: Notice of Proposed Regulatory Change - DSET Docket 13-01

Dear Commissioner Schriro:

The proposed changes to the Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection Division of Statewide Emergency Telecommunications 911 funding regulations will have a significant detrimental effect on Northeastern Connecticut which has been well served by Quinebaug Valley Communications since it was founded in 1974. I am opposed to the changes as proposed. Further, I request that they be withdrawn.

Northeastern Connecticut has long been an implementer, supporter and practitioner of regionalism. DSET should address PSAP consolidation, not penalize the best examples in the state of regional consolidation. In the end, the reward to small towns that regionalized, as DSET wanted, is to see their subsidies taken away.

Potentially, QVC could see a reduction of \$165,000. This loss in revenue would have to come from our local municipalities which are under severe financial pressure as it is. This is going in the wrong direction. It makes no sense to take \$650,000 from Regional PSAPs that serve 30% of the state's municipalities and then give \$550,000 to PSAPs that serve only 14% of the towns. The DSET Subsidy Revision Proposal takes from poor towns, gives to the wealthy ones- and proposes to subsidize small, inefficient PSAPs at the expense of larger, more efficient operations.

Other states in the nation encourage PSAP consolidation. DSET has cost Connecticut Taxpayers millions of dollars in the past twenty by failing to encourage PSAP consolidations. It is time to reverse this unfair practice of giving subsidy funds to hungry small towns that operate inefficient PSAPs thereby starving efficient regional PSAPs and discouraging regionalization and consolidation.

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration of the Town of Pomfret's position. Please do hesitate to me if you need further comment or clarification.

Sincerely,

  
Maureen Nicholson  
First Selectman  
Town of Pomfret