

**Coalition to Save Our GPS Clips**  
**June 21, 2011**

[GPS World](#) reported that The National PNT Engineering Forum (NPEF) LightSquared Working Group published results of GPS receiver testing, which concluded that “significant concerns remain that operation of an ATC integrated service as originally envisioned by the FCC cannot successfully coexist with GPS.” The report, which GPS World links to in full, calls for rescinding the waiver LightSquared was given by the FCC.

LightSquared issued a [press release](#) yesterday announcing a “comprehensive solution” to GPS interference worries posed by its planned broadband network. The plan, according to the release, involves moving its operations to a lower band that is farther away from GPS frequencies and modifying its FCC license to reduce the maximum power of its base stations by “over 50%,” limiting it to the power it was authorized to use in 2005.

Outlets across the country reported on the announcement, many of which noted that the GPS community is not satisfied with the proposal.

[Fierce Wireless](#) quoted Jim Kirkland, who said the announcement “borders on the bizarre:”

- LightSquared's supposed solution is nothing but a 'Hail Mary' move," he said in a statement. "Confining its operation to the lower MSS band still interferes with many critical GPS receivers in addition to the precision receivers that even LightSquared concedes will be affected. The government results submitted to date already prove this, and the study group report will also confirm this. It is time for LightSquared to move to out of the MSS band."

[Reuters](#), which also included comment by Jim Kirkland, included input from analysts:

- "It is very hard to see how you justify an equity value for this business (in line with) what Harbinger has invested," unless it can show it will be able to use all the spectrum it owns within two or three years, Tim Farrar, an independent satellite industry analyst said.
- BTIG analyst Walter Piecyk said LightSquared could ill-afford any delays, adding, "It's questionable whether the new spectrum will be ready in time to meet that new timeline," said Piecyk who had expected commercial services in early 2012.

[Communications Daily](#) notes that the proposal will be presented in more detail in a coming working group report that is due to the FCC on July 1 and that some details will need to be worked out cooperatively with the group.

[The Associated Press](#) outlined the FCC process to date as well as various testing that has concluded GPS interference will occur under the LightSquared plan. It quoted Jim Kirkland, who called the plan a “Hail Mary move,” that will still cause interference with many critical GPS receivers.

[The Wall Street Journal](#) noted that the Coalition to Save Our GPS is critical of the plan. The report also quoted Kirkland calling the plan a “Hail Mary’ move.” It quotes Daniel Hays, a consultant with PRTM, who said: "It's a brilliant move by LightSquared to preserve their ability to deploy their LTE network."