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F Poegel, Atmel  
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Dear Sirs

### **Release of spectrum 870-876 MHz**

Thank you for your letter of 11 December 2012 expressing your interest in the acceleration of release of spectrum at 870-876 MHz for, *inter alia*, Smart Meters and Smart Grids consistent with the direction of ETSI and CEPT, on a licence exempt basis.

We agree that it is beneficial to progress the release of this spectrum and to this end Ofcom is currently preparing for a further update and consultation on the release of 872-876 / 917-921 MHz, potentially alongside 870-872 / 915-917 MHz, if that is released by Government. We expect this document to be published in Q1 2013.

The consultation will consider, amongst other things, whether benefits to the UK will be maximised by releasing the spectrum in line with the CEPT's anticipated recommendation, so enabling the use of low power, licence exempt, short range devices such as smart meters. The consultation will also set out the prospective timing for Ofcom to implement release of the spectrum, taking account of the planned timetable for a CEPT recommendation. As such there will be a further opportunity to comment on both the proposed approach to release and the timetable for implementation.

I look forward to your continuing input on this matter.

Yours faithfully

Justin Moore