THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN REGENTS COMMUNICATION

ACTION REQUEST

Subject:

Research Agreement between the University of Michigan and

PsiKick, Inc.

Action Requested: Authorization to enter into Research Agreement

Preamble:

A statutory conflict of interest situation was identified by the Office of Research and Sponsored Projects while reviewing the Proposal Approval Form which then triggered a review by the OVPR Conflict of Interest Review Committee. A plan for management of the possible risks associated with the conflict of interest was then developed and approved by the Committee and agreed to by the parties involved.

The proposed agreement ("Agreement") falls under the State of Michigan Conflict of Interest Statute because Professor David Wentzloff is both an employee of the University of Michigan ("University") and a partial owner of PsiKick, Inc. The law permits such an Agreement provided it is disclosed to the Board of Regents ("Regents") of the University of Michigan and approved in advance by a 2/3 vote.

Background:

Dr. Wentzloff, a Professor in Electrical Engineering and Computer Science (ECE Division), in the College of Engineering, is the partial owner of a for-profit company called PsiKick, Inc. (the "Company"). The Company wishes to fund a project in the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science in the College of Engineering. The purpose of this project is to develop prototype wireless sensor nodes to demonstrate the capabilities of the ultra-low power radio technology that has been developed by the University and licensed to the Company.

Agreement Terms:

The terms of the Agreement conform to University policy. The period of performance for the project is eight (8) months. The amount of funding support is \$30,000.

Impact of the Agreement:

The Agreement will support an effort by Dr. Wentzloff to use his expertise and University laboratories, as well as other University resources to develop a prototype wireless sensor node and transmitter using a combination of custom components and commercial off-the-shelf components that will be used to support the University technology.

Recommendation:

This matter has been reviewed and approved by the OVPR Conflict of Interest Review Committee. In light of the disclosures and our finding that the Agreement was negotiated in conformance with standard University practices, I recommend that the Board of Regents approve of the University's entering into this Agreement with PsiKick, Inc.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen R. Forrest

Vice President for Research

July 2013