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October 27, 1999

Magalie Roman Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Room TWA 325
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20545

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FCC MAIL ROOM

RE: EX PARTE

In the Matter of Direct Broadcast Satellite Public Service
Obligations
FCC Docket Nos. 99-25 and 93-25

Dear Ms. Salas,

Representatives of the Alliance for Community Media met on October 26th, 1999 with Marsha MacBride, Legal Advisor to Commissioner Michael Powell to discuss many concerns of the members of the Alliance for Community Media who are concerned with Public, Educational and Governmental (PEG) Access television. Representing the Alliance for Community Media were Bunnie Riedel and Margaret Juliano. In discussing these concerns Ms. Riedel addressed a joint filing between the Alliance for Community Media and Time Warner Entertainment regarding Direct Broadcast Satellite provider's public service obligations and the role of Public, Educational and Governmental access stations in fulfilling programming obligations.

The discussion primarily concerned the convergence of telecommunications technology and how current regulations will affect the development of new technology as well as general information about the interests and concerns of PEG centers. The year 2000 conversion efforts of Commissioner Powell's office were also addressed, but only in regards to how to use PEG channels for broadcasting video programming from governmental agencies (such as the Department of Education and FEMA).

A copy of this letter has been submitted to the Secretary of the Commission for inclusion in the public record.

Sincerely,


Bunnie Riedel

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