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ASHEVILLE-BUNCOMBE TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

K. Ray Bailey, *President*

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FEB 23 2001

Office of General Counsel
Office of Secretary

340 Victoria Road
Asheville, NC 28801
Telephone (828) 254-1921
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February 16, 2001

Mr. Roy Stewart, Chief
Federal Communications Commission
Mass Media Bureau
Room 2-C334
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

VIDEO SERVICES
DIVISION
FEB 20 11 11 AM '01

Dear Mr. Stewart:

Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College has applied to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) for an ITFS (Instructional Television Fixed Service) license for which FCC approval is currently pending. We have been working for over five (5) years and invested significant funds to secure our license, along with 38 other North Carolina Community Colleges, in an effort to establish a statewide wireless network in support of education and training delivery for our citizens.

Securing this license and establishing this educational wireless network is particularly important to our college, which is located in Western North Carolina where other data transmission infrastructure is severely limited due to the rural nature of the area. Without this wireless network, our ability to deliver educational services to the citizens of our area will be severely limited and adversely impacted. We have been working toward the development of this network for years as the integral part of our plans to use technology to effectively deliver educational services to the members of our community through distance learning programs and collaborative programs with neighboring educational institutions. This network is a vital component of our efforts to overcome the digital divide that threatens to segregate our communities.

Our planned wireless system will be used to deliver curriculum and continuing education courses and workshops to business and industry, government agencies, municipal offices, health care agencies, law enforcement agencies, emergency services agencies, and secondary and other post-secondary educational institutions within our region. We have expended considerable resources in program planning and development over the past five years in anticipation of the completion of this wireless network. The proposed system will provide the infrastructure for economical connectivity among existing institutions and support the expansion of program delivery to rural and remote areas that do not at the present time have high-speed data connectivity.

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It has come to our attention that other interests such as 3-G are attempting to acquire the frequencies that we are requesting be allocated for the ITFS system. To allocate these frequencies for purposes other than ITFS would needlessly imperil one of our most important technological resources for educational delivery and outreach to the members of our community. There are other frequencies that could accommodate 3-G, while protecting our citizens' access to information and educational programs by reserving the requested frequencies for ITFS.

We strongly oppose any attempt to re-allocate or subdivide the frequencies requested for ITFS, and urge you to consider carefully both the opportunity we have for a comprehensive educational network if ITFS remains intact; as well as the cost to our citizens if the frequencies are squandered and we fail to capitalize on this opportunity to create a seamless web of lifelong learning. ITFS is an essential part of our College's educational delivery strategy for the future and will play a key role in workforce preparedness for our citizens and the economic development of our region.

We urge your careful attention to this matter, and ask for your assistance in retaining the ITFS frequencies for use in educational delivery through our statewide educational consortium.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K m Bailey". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "B" at the end.

K. Ray Bailey
President

cc Barbara Kreisman, Chief

Oregon ITFS Licensees

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<u>Institution and Contact</u>	<u>Call Signs</u>
Chemeketa Community College Donna Carver Distance Learning Programs P.O. Box 14007 4000 Lancaster Dr. NE Salem OR 97309 503-399-5191 Fax: 503-399-5214 e-mail: donnac@chemeketa.edu	Salem – A Group – WHR - 771
Lane Community College Cynde Leathers, Coordinator Distance Learning Programs 4000 East 30th Ave Eugene, OR 97405 (541) 726-2260 FAX: 744-3974 E-Mail: leathersc@lanecc.edu	Eugene - D Group - WNC 487
Linn-Benton Community College Paul Snyder, Department Chair Distance Learning & Media Services 6500 SW Pacific Blvd. Albany, OR 97321 (541) 917-4640 FAX: 917-4659 E-Mail: snyderp@gw.lbcc.cc.or.us	Eugene - G Group - WNC 540
Linn/Benton/Lincoln ESD Paul A. Yeiter Instructional Technology and Arts Specialist 905 4th Avenue Southeast Albany, OR 97321 (541) 967-8822 ext.2649 Fax: (541) 926-6047 E-mail: paul_yeiter@lblesd.k12.or.us	Participating Institution
Oregon Public Broadcasting Mike Tondreau VP of Engineering 7140 SW Macadam Ave. Portland OR 97219 503 293-1927 Fax: 503 293-4877 e-mail: Mike_Tondreau@opb.org	Portland – A Group – WHR 543

Oregon State University

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Salem - C Group - WNC 718
Eugene - A Group - WNC 527

Oregon University System

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Eugene - C Group - WNC 574
Medford - D Group - WNC 771

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Portland - B 1-2 - WHR 746
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Portland State University

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Salem - D Group - WNC 470

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Medford - G Group - WNC 759

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Eugene - B Group - WNC 526

Western Oregon University
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Salem - G Group - WNC 717

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Bend - D Group - WNC 815

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Bend - B Group - WNC 814

Bend/LaPine School District
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(541) 383-6031

Bend - Group A - WNC 816