



Office of the President

May 26, 2004

Honorable Michael K. Powell
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: WT Docket No. 03-66

Chairman Powell:

Educational institutions throughout the United States for many decades have used Instructional Television Fixed Service (“ITFS”) channels in the 2.5 GHz band to transmit instructional programming to students at all levels, from grade school through graduate school to the workplace. Northern Arizona University Foundation has ITFS licenses in seven markets. The allocation of ITFS spectrum for educational purposes was a wise and forward-thinking decision of the FCC in the 1960’s.

Millions of learners across the country rely on ITFS for access to critical educational services including interactive instruction, distance education, electronic field trips, job site training, and other services. Northern Arizona University’s ITFS systems can play an important role for “last mile” service as we reach out across the country providing affordable programs. As the cost of education and training continues to increase in a difficult budgetary era, the resources that Northern Arizona University can provide through our ITFS system will be essential to keep the quality of education high, and ensure that all of our learners have access to the resources necessary to excel.

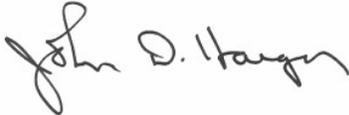
ITFS is the only spectrum specifically allocated to formal education, and we are writing to request your support in protecting this vital educational asset. As the FCC updates the technical rules for ITFS to more effectively support a range of new broadband services, **I urge you to reject proposals to allow any ITFS spectrum to be sold to commercial entities, or to reduce the total amount of spectrum allocated to ITFS.** Loss of the spectrum would be a terrible blow to education. That is why I emphatically disagree with the eligibility position taken by NITV in a recent *ex parte* filing in this proceeding. NITV is ITFS licensee that is, of course, free to advocate whatever position best serves its corporate interests. However, it is not a school or

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higher education institution. It is speaking for itself but emphatically not for ITFS licensees or the education community in the United States who firmly believe that such a change likely would cripple ITFS as an educational tool.

With other ITFS licensees, I believe that the possibilities for future development of educational services in the ITFS band are exciting. Our efforts and similar ones nationally could be fatally jeopardized if the Commission opens ITFS spectrum to commercial entities or reduces the size of ITFS channels. Therefore, I ask for your strong support to keep this valuable educational resource from being reduced or licensed for commercial use. Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John D. Haeger". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and "H".

John D. Haeger
President

cc: Commissioner Abernathy
Commissioner Adelstein
Commissioner Copps
Commissioner Martin
John B. Muleta