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Via Electronic Filing

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W., TW-A325
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: *Second Periodic Review of the Commission's Rules and Policies Affecting the Conversion To Digital Television, MB Docket No. 03-15; Standardized and Enhanced Disclosure Requirements for Television Broadcast Licensee Public Interest Obligations, MM Docket No. 00-168.*

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Pursuant to section 1.1206 (b)(2) of the Commission's rules, we hereby submit this notice regarding an *ex parte* meeting in the above-referenced proceedings.

On Monday, June 7, 2004, representatives of the Public Interest, Public Airwaves Coalition met with FCC Commissioner Kevin J. Martin and his legal advisor on media issues, Catherine Crutcher Bohigian. Attending the meeting were Gloria Tristani, Managing Director of the Office of Communication of the United Church of Christ, Inc.; Jeff Chester, Executive Director of the Center for Digital Democracy; James Benton of Common Cause; Meredith McGehee, Executive Director of the Alliance for Better Campaigns; and Angela Campbell, Director, and James A. Bachtell, Staff Attorney, of the Institute for Public Representation at Georgetown University Law Center.

The group presented and discussed the attached proposed public interest television disclosure form and a memo concerning the legality of the form with the Commissioner and his advisor. Members of Public Interest, Public Airwaves Coalition noted that the current issues/programs lists do not provide an effective means for the public to assess licensees' performance. Because the requirement of listing programs "that have provided the station's most significant treatment of community issues" is so vague, these lists lack uniformity and consistency and make it difficult to discern the amount and type of public interest programming a broadcaster carries.

They are also inaccessible, available for inspection only at the main studio of the station during normal business hours.

The group noted that its disclosure form proposal, based on comments filed by UCC, *et al.* in 2000, is standardized and gathers information the public needs to meaningfully evaluate whether licensees are serving their public interest obligations. The form also helps the public determine how broadcasters are using their new digital spectrum. It also accommodates the group's public interest guidelines proposal, gathering the necessary information and placing the certification questions at the end of the form, so they can be incorporated if adopted by the FCC. Members also noted that filing the form with the Commission and placing it on the stations' web sites will give the public greater access to the information.

As detailed in the attached memo, the group also pointed out that the form does not raise any issues under the First Amendment since the proposal neither prohibits broadcasters from airing any programming they chose, nor requires broadcasters to air any particular viewpoint or type of programming.

In accordance with the Commission's rules, this *ex parte* notice is being filed electronically in the above referenced dockets. If you have any questions regarding this filing, please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 662-9543.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/

James A. Bachtell

Attachments