



The Internet & Television Association
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October 17, 2016

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

Re: GN Docket No. 16-142

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On October 13, 2016, Rick Chessen, Diane Burstein, and Andy Scott, all of NCTA - The Internet and Television Association ("NCTA"), accompanied by its consultant Jeff Krauss, met with the following FCC staff: from the Media Bureau, William Lake, Evan Baranoff, Steve Broeckaert, Michelle Carey, John Gabrysh, Martha Heller, Kim Matthews, Sean Mirzadegan, Evan Morris, Paul Murray, and John Wong; and, from the Office of Engineering and Technology, Julie Knapp, Walter Johnston, Aspasia Paroutsas, and Barbara Pavon.

At the meeting, NCTA discussed issues raised in its written comments on the broadcasters' Petition for Rulemaking. Specifically, NCTA explained that the broadcasters' adoption of a new voluntary broadcast standard (ATSC 3.0) cannot occur in a vacuum and raises numerous complicated technical and practical issues for cable operators, some of which still are being explored as part of the ATSC process. NCTA explained that cable operators use a different transmission technology with which ATSC 3.0 is not compatible.

If the Commission chooses to issue a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, NCTA proposed that the NPRM seek input on ways to minimize the costs and burdens that this transition could otherwise impose on cable operators and their customers. NCTA explained that cable operators should not be required to carry any ATSC 3.0 signal during this transition and that the Commission in any NPRM should ensure that those broadcasters that opt to transmit an ATSC 3.0 signal continue to provide a good quality ATSC 1.0 signal to the cable headend. We also discussed why the Commission, rather than individual broadcasters, should determine how and when the transition ends.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Rick Chessen

Rick Chessen

cc: William Lake
Evan Baranoff
Steve Broeckaert
Michelle Carey
John Gabrysh

Martha Heller
Kim Matthews
Sean Mirzadegan
Evan Morris
Paul Murray

John Wong
Julie Knapp
Walter Johnston
Aspasia Paroutsas
Barbara Pavon