



August 8, 2019

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

Re: Notice of Ex Parte Communication, GN Docket No. 18-122

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On August 6, Jack Smedile, Patrick McFadden and the undersigned, all of the National Association of Broadcasters' (NAB) met with Nicholas Degani and Aaron Goldberger of Chairman Pai's office. During this meeting, we discussed NAB's positions with respect to expanded operations in the C-band.¹

NAB explained its significant concern that continued pressure to increase the amount of spectrum reallocated in this proceeding greatly risks breaking the content distribution system that serves well over a hundred million American households today. Forcing immediate reallocation of spectrum above a level that would preserve C-band service for content distribution could lead to service disruption for the viewers and listeners broadcasters serve. NAB urged the Commission to move forward with reallocation of 200 MHz of the C-band, as that approach generally speaking can both free up a large swath of spectrum while protecting existing users.

NAB also urged the Commission not to adopt the proposal set forth by ACA Connects – America's Communications Association, the Competitive Carriers Association and Charter Communications, Inc..² While pitched as a partial reallocation of the C-band, the proposal would likely lead to reallocation of the entire band, as it would leave satellite operators with a small fraction of their spectrum and customer base. The proposal is transparently self-interested and plainly intended to create new revenues for its proponents while undermining

¹ *Expanding Flexible Use of the 3.7 to 4.2 GHz Band*, Order and Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, GN Docket No. 18-122, GN Docket No. 17-183, FCC 18-91 (July 13, 2018).

² Letter from ACA Connects, CCA and Charter to Marlene H. Dortch, GN Docket No. 18-122 (July 2, 2019).

competition for content distribution and gaining price-setting power over the distribution market. It is a recipe for disaster for the content ecosystem.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rick Kaplan", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Rick Kaplan
General Counsel and Executive Vice President,
Legal and Regulatory Affairs
National Association of Broadcasters

cc: Nicholas Degani
Aaron Goldberger