



Via ECFS

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

December 6, 2017

Re: *Ex Parte* Notice: GN Docket No. 16-142, *Authorizing Permissive Use of the “Next Generation” Broadcast Television Standard*

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On December 5, 2017, the undersigned met with Evan Swarztrauber from Commissioner Brendan Carr’s office to discuss the Advanced Warning and Response Network (AWARN) and other capabilities of the ATSC 3.0, Next Generation Television (“Next Gen”) broadcast transmission standard.

John Lawson and Fiona James of the AWARN Alliance provide a briefing on the geo-targeting, rich media, and other enhanced alerting capabilities made possible with the Next Gen TV standard. The ability to wake-up devices and to send multilingual and accessible alerts was also highlighted. We explained that, together, the alerting capabilities of ATSC 3.0 and AWARN address many of the Commission’s stated goals for improving alerting and disaster recovery communications.

We also updated Mr. Swarztrauber on the continued growth of the AWARN Alliance membership, as well as the AWARN Advisory Committee, which now includes the nation’s largest alert originating organizations.

As one of the original joint petitioners for Next Gen approval, we also expressed our gratitude on behalf of the AWARN Alliance for Commissioner Carr’s vote to approve the voluntary transmission of Next Generation Television at the Commission’s November 16 meeting.

Please contact the undersigned should you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

/s/

John M. Lawson
Executive Director

Cc: Evan Swarztrauber
Fiona James