

JEGI Doc.-063

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARYWILLIAM G.
CONNOLLY
Chairman**SONY PICTURES HIGH DEFINITION CENTER**

SONY PICTURES ENTERTAINMENT COMPANY

October 20, 1993

Congressman Edward J. Markey
2133 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Markey,

Recently you received a letter and an attachment concerning the Grand Alliance proposal for a high definition transmission standard which appeared to represent the opinion of the Hollywood production community as a whole. This letter is being written to offer a contrary view.

Sony Pictures has participated in the FCC Advisory Committee process for several years, and has been a member of the Advanced Television Systems Committee as well. We are convinced that the process for selecting a transmission standard is open, fair and allows all who wish to participate a voice in the proceedings. Chairman Richard Wiley has made every effort to draw all affected parties into the debate. It comes as a surprise, therefore, to hear the allegation that a segment of the Hollywood production community has been "excluded". Particularly when an advisory group was formed with members of the production community whose purpose it was to solicit information on creative issues. The report of PS/Advisory Group 1 is a matter of record.

Most surprising is the allegation that --"very narrow interests"-- have prevailed in the process. The system being proposed by the Grand Alliance makes provision for all affected parties. To exclude a feature of the system: a high line rate, interlace scan provision which, in our opinion, would serve a variety of purposes, would be wrong.

Under the Grand Alliance proposal, feature films would be transmitted in a progressively scanned manner, ensuring the highest possible quality of transmission of our film product to the home.

At the same time, the Grand Alliance proposal provides the flexibility to transmit electronically produced television programming in a high line rate interlace format. This is of great importance to our export market since Japan has already introduced a similar system, and Europe has stated their clear and unequivocal intention to do so as well. To exclude this provision could put us in the position of having to produce electronic programming in a high line rate standard for the export market and perform standards conversion for the domestic market, or would force us

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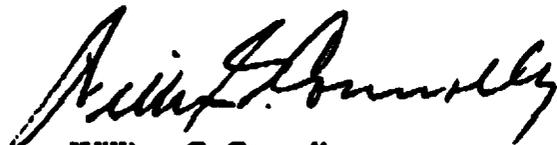
Congressman Edward J. Markey, page two
October 20, 1993

into the position of producing all programming on film which is the only other proven way to meet the needs of the international market.

The Grand Alliance proposal makes provision to transmit low line rate computer-generated information and text to the home in a progressive scan mode; it also provides for the transmission of high line rate interlace sports and actuality programming. We believe that to be exactly the kind of flexibility that is needed for an enduring standard and the development of a future marketplace.

You have been asked to take action to ensure that the Grand Alliance proposal considers all those it will affect by excluding a provision that will serve the clearly defined interests of many. We do not agree to this convoluted logic; in large part because it affects our flexibility in planning future production, but also because it impacts other segments of the entertainment industry upon which we depend to bring our programs into the home.

Sincerely,



William G. Connolly

cc: Vice President Albert Gore
Honorable James H. Quello
✓ Robert Sanderson, Chairman ACATS Joint Experts Group on Interoperability
Richard Wiley, Chairman, ACATS



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**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**

JEGI Doc.-064

22 November 1993

**Mr. William H. Hassinger
Federal Communications Commission-Mass Media Bureau
1919 M Street, N.W. - Room 314
Washington, DC 20554**

Dear Mr. Hassinger:

Enclosed you will find a complete set of all documents that are part of the public record of the Joint Experts Group on Interoperability. The Joint Experts Group on Interoperability reports to the Technical Subcommittee of the FCC Advisory Committee on Advanced Television Service. The first document in the set (JEGI Doc.-001) is a numerical listing of all of the documents and represents the final record of the Joint Experts Group on Interoperability. This set should be used to fulfill any requests for copies of documents.

The set of documents includes JEGI Doc.-058 which is the Report of the Joint Experts Group on Interoperability and documents the findings of the Experts Group.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any additional questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "S. Baron".

cc: I.Dorros; Co-Chair, ACATS Technical Subcommittee
J.Flaherty; Co-Chair, ACATS Technical Subcommittee
P.Misener; Wiley, Rein and Fielding
R.Sanderson; Chair, Joint Experts Group on Interoperability

**FCC ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ADVANCED TELEVISION (ATV) SERVICE
JOINT EXPERTS GROUP ON INTEROPERABILITY (JEGI)
LIST OF DOCUMENTS**

<u>Doc.#</u>	<u>Date</u> ¹	<u>Source</u>	<u>Subject</u>
001		S.Baron	List of Documents
002		S.Baron	Active Membership List
003	93/07/23	Dorros & Flaherty	Establishment of JEGI
004	93/08/04	R.Sanderson	JEGI Status Report
005	93/08/20	R.Sanderson	Membership List Update.
006	93/08/24	R.Sanderson	Teleconference Call Summary - 93/08/20.
007	93/08/26	R.Sanderson	Teleconference Call Meeting Notice - 93/08/27.
008	93/08/27	R.Sanderson	Draft-1 letter of invitation - 93/10/06-07.
009	93/08/27	P.Symes,B.Penney	Single and Dual Scanning Formats.
010	93/08/27	R.Hopkins	ATSC Doc.E/56(92/05/22)
011	93/08/27	R.Hopkins	ATSC Doc. T3/210 (92/11/20)
012	93/08/30	R.Sanderson	Interoperability Definition
013	93/08/30	R.Sanderson	Draft-2 letter of invitation - 93/10/06-07.
014	93/08/30	S.Baron	Teleconference Call Summary Notes - 93/08/27.
014A	93/09/21	S.Baron	Teleconference Call Minutes - 93/08/27.
015	93/09/02	Sanderson,Liebhold	Letter of Invitation - 93/10/06-07
016	93/09/02	Sanderson,Liebhold	Interoperability Panel Membership List
017	93/09/13	R.Sanderson	Interoperability view on 1080 vs. 960
018	93/02/xx	ACATS-PS/WP4	Final Report, Interoperability Assessments
019	93/08/31	S.Baron	Correction to Doc.014
020	93/09/21	S.Baron	JEGI Meeting Summary Notes - 93/09/20
021	93/09/19	M.Liebhold	Draft Meeting Plan and Location Alternatives
022	93/09/22	S.Baron	Teleconference Call Summary Notes - 93/09/22
023	93/09/23	R.Sanderson	Addition to Expert Group membership
024	93/09/23	Sanderson, Liebhold	Meeting Details ACATS Interoperability Review Oct.(5), 6&7
025	93/09/23	G.Reitmeier	Draft Grand Alliance HDTV Interoperability Presentation.
026	93/09/20	G.Reitmeier	Interoperability aspects of the Grand Alliance HDTV System
027	93/10/05	C.Camp	Letter to R.Wiley, re: TIMPEG2
028	93/10/04	N.Izenberg	Letter to M.Liebhold re: Comments on high resolution television and imaging systems
029	93/10/04	R.Myers	Letter to M.Liebhold re: Comments on Grand Alliance system
030	93/10/04	S.Baron	Interoperability goals for the Grand Alliance HDTV System
031	93/10/05	C.Tanner	Interoperability concerns of the Cable Television Industry
032	93/10/05	V.Kemper	Comments by the American Society of Cinematographers
033	93/10/04	J.Hamalainin	Interoperability issues
034	93/10/06	W.Connolly	Interoperability with film

¹ Date format is YEAR/MONTH/DAY i.e. July 23, 1993 = 93/07/23.

035	93/10/06	T.DeYoung	ARPA HDS Comments and Concerns
036	93/10/06	J.Fuhrer	Grand Alliance and MPEG2
037	93/10/06	G.Demos	Cooperation between SMPTE and MPEG2
038	93/10/06	B.Bronson	Interoperability concerns beyond broadcast industry
039	93/10/06	R.Sproull	Comments on Interoperability Aspects of the Grand Alliance HDTV System
040	93/10/06	M.Liebhold	ATV in the Context of the NII
041	93/10/06	K.Parulski	Proposal for an Explicit 1080x1920, 1:1, 24 Hz HDTV format
042	93/10/06	T.DeFanti	Re: Position on progressive scan
043	93/10/06	D.Weitzner	HDTV and the National Information Infrastructure
044	93/10/06	M.Haley	Consolidate GAMPEG2 to 100% MPEG2
045	93/10/06	Sanderson, Gerovac	Summary of Comments and Issues, Wednesday, October 6 1993
046	93/10/06	R.Hopkins	List of Interoperability Issues
047	93/10/06	L.Smarr	Position paper
048	93/10/05	D.LeGall	Questions on Interoperability
049	93/05/05	J.Sculley	CSPP position on NII
050	93/10/06	D.Baylor	Direct TV Comments on Interoperability Aspects of the Grand Alliance System
051	93/10/06	Sanderson, Liebhold	Agenda-Interoperability Review of Grand Alliance Proposal
052	93/10/05	P.Fannon	Screening for Joint Experts Group on Interoperability - ATTC
053	93/09/20	P.Fannon, A.Godber	Proposal for Screening for Joint Experts Group on Interoperability - ATTC
054	93/10/07	R.Kahn	Remarks on NII
055	93/10/07	S.Baron	Interoperability Review of Grand Alliance, 6-7 October - Attendance List
056	93/10/12	C.Fleischhauer	Comments on Interoperability Panel
057	93/10/13	H.C.Donahue	The Grand Alliance
058	93/10/18	R.Sanderson	Joint Experts Group on Interoperability Report
059	93/10/23	B.Dayton	Comments on Interoperability Panel
060	93/10/14	P.Fannon	Report: Screening for Joint Experts Group on Interoperability - ATTC
061	93/10/17	R.Sproull	Comments on Interoperability Panel
062	93/10/18	R.Hummell	Comments on Interoperability Panel
063	93/10/20	W.Connolly	Comments on Interoperability Panel
064	93/11/19	S.Baron	Letter of transfer of record to FCC