

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

87-268



Hearst Broadcasting

David J Barrett
Vice President,
The Hearst Corporation
Deputy General Manager
of Broadcasting

959 Eighth Avenue
New York NY 10019
212 649 2301

An Operating Group of The Hearst Corporation

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OFFICE OF
SECRETARY
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS
COMMISSION

April 3, 1997

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APR 7 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Commissioners
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: MM Docket #87-268

Dear Commissioners:

WCVB, Boston Massachusetts confirms its commitment to put a DTV signal on air within 18 months of the issuance of the FCC reports and orders adopting service rules, and a table of DTV allotments/assignments, subject to the same commitment by the Boston CBS owned station WBZ, and absent circumstances beyond our control.

WCVB is a tenant on the television tower owned by WBZ/CBS, and must proceed with the necessary build out of DTV transmission facilities on a timetable concurrent with WBZ. Hearst/WCVB and CBS/WBZ engineering management are cooperatively pursuing structural design and construction requirements necessary to build DTV transmitting facilities at the WBZ tower site. It is Hearst's expectation that the early 18 month timetable is achievable, however, as tenants of CBS/WBZ we are reliant on WBZ's mutual commitment to meet the early timetable for the Boston market.

Circumstances beyond our control include, but are not limited to, (a) inability to construct or otherwise place into operation the appropriate digital television facility, for reasons related to tower siting or construction, zoning, building permits, RF radiation, FAA approval, or other constraints beyond our control; (b) power and broadcast equipment unavailability or unavailability of necessary expertise (e.g., consulting engineers, structural engineers, tower erection crews); or (c) serious channel assignment issues including Canadian/Mexican frequency coordination issues.

WTAE-TV • WTAE • WVTY
Pittsburgh
WBAL-TV • WBAL • WYFF
Baltimore

WISN-TV • WISN • WLTQ
Milwaukee
WCVB-TV
Boston

KMBC-TV No. of Copies rec'd
Kansas City List ABCDE
WDTN-TV
Dayton

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Commissioners - FCC
April 3, 1997
Page Two

We understand that this commitment may be taken into account in the Commission's deliberations on DTV service rules, which we vigorously urge be resolved in a report and order adopted this week.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David B. Bennett". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font.

DJB:dcg

AH BELO CORPORATION

Michael J. McCarthy
Senior Vice President/Secretary
General Counsel

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

87-268

April 2, 1997

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Dear Commissioners:

WFAA-TV, Dallas, Texas confirms its commitment, based on requests through NAB or MSTV from Commission personnel, to put a DTV signal on the air within 18 months of the issuance of the FCC reports and orders adopting service rules and a table of DTV allotments/assignments, absent circumstances beyond our control.

Circumstances beyond our control include, but are not limited to, (a) inability to construct or otherwise place into operation the appropriate digital television facility, for reasons related to tower siting or construction, zoning, building permits, RF radiation, FAA approval, or other constraints beyond our control; (b) power and broadcast equipment unavailability or unavailability of necessary expertise (e.g., consulting engineers, structural engineers, tower erection crews); or (c) serious channel assignment issues including Canadian/Mexican frequency coordination issues.

We understand that this commitment may be taken into account in the Commission's deliberations on DTV service rules, which we vigorously urge be resolved in a report and order adopted this week.

Respectfully submitted,


Michael J. McCarthy

MJM/tj

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87-268

CECIL L. WALKER
PRESIDENT
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
GANNETT BROADCASTING

April 2, 1997

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Chairman Reed E. Hundt
Commissioner James H. Quello
Commissioner Rachelle B. Chong
Commissioner Susan Ness
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20054

Dear Mr. Chairman and Commissioners:

Gannett Co., Inc., the controlling owner of television station WXIA-TV, Atlanta, GA, confirms its commitment, based on requests through NAB or MSTV from Commission personnel, to put a WXIA-TV DTV signal on the air within 18 months of the issuance of the FCC reports and orders adopting service rules and table of DTV allotments/assignments, absent circumstances beyond our control.

Circumstances beyond our control include, but are not limited to, (a) inability to construct or otherwise place into operation the appropriate digital television facility, for reasons related to tower siting or construction, zoning, building permits, RF radiation, FAA approval, unanticipated or extraordinary costs, or other constraints beyond our control; (b) power and broadcast equipment unavailability or unavailability of necessary expertise (e.g., consulting engineers, structural engineers, tower erection crews); or (c) serious channel assignment issues including Canadian/Mexican frequency coordination issues. We wish to note that the expected necessity to build a new antenna tower for WXIA-TV raises a serious possibility that construction delays will impede the ability to meet an 18 month completion target in this case.

We understand that this commitment may be taken into account in the Commission's deliberations of DTV service rules, which we vigorously urge be resolved in a report and order adopted this week.

Respectfully submitted,

Cecil L. Walker

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CECIL L. WALKER
PRESIDENT
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
GANNETT BROADCASTING

87-268

April 2, 1997

Chairman Reed E. Hundt
Commissioner James H. Quello
Commissioner Rachelle B. Chong
Commissioner Susan Ness
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20054

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Dear Mr. Chairman and Commissioners:

Gannett Co., Inc., the controlling owner of television station WUSA-TV, Washington, D.C., confirms its commitment, based on requests through NAB or MSTV from Commission personnel, to put a WUSA-TV DTV signal on the air within 18 months of the issuance of the FCC reports and orders adopting service rules and table of DTV allotments/assignments, absent circumstances beyond our control.

Circumstances beyond our control include, but are not limited to, (a) inability to construct or otherwise place into operation the appropriate digital television facility, for reasons related to tower siting or construction, zoning, building permits, RF radiation, FAA approval, unanticipated or extraordinary costs or other constraints beyond our control; (b) power and broadcast equipment unavailability or unavailability of necessary expertise (e.g., consulting engineers, structural engineers, tower erection crews); or (c) serious channel assignment issues including Canadian/Mexican frequency coordination issues.

We understand that this commitment may be taken into account in the Commission's deliberations on DTV service rules, which we vigorously urge be resolved in a report and order adopted this week.

Respectfully submitted,

Cecil L. Walker

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Dear Commissioners:

On behalf of WJLA-TV, Washington, DC, Allbritton Communications Company confirms its commitment, based on requests through NAB or MSTV from Commission personnel, to put a DTV signal on the air within 18 months of the issuance of the FCC reports and orders adopting service rules and a table of DTV allotments/assignments, absent circumstances beyond our control.

Circumstances beyond our control include, but are not limited to, (a) inability to construct or otherwise place into operation the appropriate digital television facility, for reasons related to tower siting or construction, zoning, building permits, RF radiation, FAA approval, labor disputes, unanticipated extraordinary expenses relating to construction or equipment acquisition or other constraints beyond our control; (b) power and broadcast equipment unavailability or unavailability of necessary expertise (e.g. consulting engineers, structural engineers, tower erection crews); or (c) serious channel assignment issues including Canadian/Mexican frequency coordination issues.

We understand that this commitment may be taken into account in the Commission's deliberations on DTV service rules, which we vigorously urge be resolved in a report and order adopted this week.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerald N. Fritz
Vice President
Legal and Strategic Affairs

c:\jerry\commis.ldr

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Dennis J. FitzSimons
Executive Vice President
312/222-3373

TRIBUNE

BROADCASTING

Tribune Broadcasting Company
435 North Michigan Avenue, Suite 2300
Chicago, Illinois 60611
Fax 312/222-3203

April 2, 1997

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87-268

Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Dear Commissioners:

KTLA/Los Angeles confirms its commitment, based on requests through NAB or MSTV from Commission personnel, to put a DTV signal on the air within 18 months of the issuance of the FCC reports and orders adopting service rules and a table of DTV allotments/assignments, absent circumstances beyond our control.

Circumstances beyond our control include, but are not limited to, (a) inability to construct or otherwise place into operation the appropriate digital television facility, for reasons related to tower siting or construction, zoning, building permits, RF radiation, FAA approval, or other constraints beyond our control; (b) power and broadcast equipment unavailability or unavailability of necessary expertise (e.g., consulting engineers, structural engineers, tower erection crews); or (c) serious channel assignment issues including Canadian/Mexican frequency coordination issues.

We understand that this commitment may be taken into account in the Commission's deliberations on DTV service rules, which we vigorously urge be resolved in a report and order adopted this week.

Respectfully submitted,



Dennis FitzSimons

DJF/cn

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CHRONICLE BROADCASTING COMPANY

87-268

April 1, 1997

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Dear Commissioners:

KRON, San Francisco, California, confirms its commitment, based on requests through NAB or MSTV from Commission personnel, to put a DTV signal on the air within 18 months of the issuance of the FCC reports and orders adopting service rules and a table of DTV allotments/assignments, absent circumstances beyond our control.

Circumstances beyond our control include, but are not limited to, (a) inability to construct or otherwise place into operation the appropriate digital television facility, for reasons related to tower siting or construction, zoning, building permits, RF radiation, equipment unavailability or unavailability of necessary expertise (e.g. consulting engineers, structural engineers, tower erection crews); or (c) serious channel assignment issues including Canadian/Mexican frequency coordination issues.

We understand that this commitment may be taken into account in the Commission's deliberations on DTV service rules, which we vigorously urge be resolved in a report and order adopted this week.

Respectfully submitted,



Amy McCombs
President and Chief Executive Officer

AMC/pmc

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KRON TV
San Francisco

WOWT TV
Omaha

KAKE TV
Wichita

KUPK TV
Garden City

KLBY TV
Colby

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IMES COMMUNICATIONS
MANCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE

87-268

LARRY GILPIN
VICE PRESIDENT/GENERAL MANAGER
WMUR

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

April 1, 1997

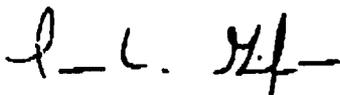
Dear Commissioners:

WMUR-TV, Manchester, New Hampshire confirms its commitment, based on requests through NAB or MSTV from Commission personnel, to put a DTV signal on the air within 18 months of the issuance of the FCC reports and orders adopting service rules and a table of DTV allotments/assignments, absent circumstances beyond our control.

Circumstances beyond our control include, but are not limited to, (a) inability to construct or otherwise place into operation the appropriate digital television facility, for FAA approval, or other constraints beyond our control; (b) power and broadcast equipment unavailability or unavailability of necessary expertise (e.g., consulting engineers, structural engineers, tower erection crews); or (c) serious channel assignment issues including Canadian/Mexican frequency coordination issues.

We understand that this commitment may be taken into account in the Commission's deliberations on DTV service rules, which we vigorously urge be resolved in a report and order adopted this week.

Respectfully submitted,



Larry E. Gilpin
Vice President/General Manager

LEG:tp

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LIN TELEVISION CORPORATION, #4 RICHMOND SQUARE, PROVIDENCE, RI 02906, TEL (401) 454-2880, FAX (401) 454-5286

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April 2, 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Dear Commissioners:

KXAS-TV, Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas, confirms its commitment, based on requests through NAB or MSTV from Commission personnel, to put a DTV signal on the air within 18 months of the issuance of the FCC reports and orders adopting service rules and a table of DTV allotments/assignments, absent circumstances beyond our control.

Circumstances beyond our control include, but are not limited to: [a] inability to construct or otherwise place into operation the appropriate digital television facility, for reasons related to tower siting or construction, zoning, building permits, RF radiation, FAA approval, or other constraints beyond our control; [b] power and broadcast equipment unavailability or unavailability of necessary expertise (e.g. consulting engineers, structural engineers, tower erection crews); or [c] serious channel assignment issues including Canadian/Mexican frequency coordination issues.

We understand that this commitment may be taken into account in the Commission's deliberations on DTV service rules, which we vigorously urge be resolved in a report and order adopted this week.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary R. Chapman
President and CEO

107-114

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30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, NY 10112
212 664-3493
Fax: 212 664-7275

A Division of
National Broadcasting
Company, Inc.

John H. Rohrbeck
President

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary



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April 2, 1997

Dear Commissioners:

KNBC-TV, Los Angeles, CA; WCAU-TV, Philadelphia, PA; and WRC-TV, Washington, D.C. confirm their commitment, based on requests through the NAB or MSTV from Commission personnel, to put a DTV signal on the air within 18 months of the issuance of the FCC reports and orders adopting service rules and a table of DTV allotments/assignments, absent circumstances beyond our control. WNBC-TV, New York, NY; and WMAQ-TV, Chicago, IL also confirm their intent to meet this schedule, subject to resolving the tower/location issues in New York and Chicago that are already known to the Commission.

Circumstances beyond our control include, but are not limited to, (a) inability to construct or otherwise place into operation the appropriate digital television facility, for reasons to tower siting or construction, zoning, building permits, RF radiation, FAA approval, or other constraints beyond our control; (b) power and broadcast equipment unavailability or the unavailability of necessary expertise (e.g., consulting engineers, structural engineers, tower erection crews); or (c) serious channel assignment issues including Canadian/Mexican frequency coordination issues.

We understand that this commitment may be taken into account in the Commission's deliberations on DTV service rules, which we vigorously urge be resolved in a report and an order adopted this week.

Respectfully submitted,

John H. Rohrbeck
President, NBC Television Stations

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CBS

CBS Inc., 51 West 52 Street
New York, New York 10018-6188
(212) 875-6050

Peter A. Lund
President and Chief Executive Officer
CBS Television and Cable Group

87-268

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Dear Chairman Hundt and Commissioners:

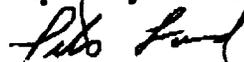
April 2, 1997

In response to inquiries from NAB and Commission personnel, CBS confirms its intention to build facilities associated with WCBS-TV, New York, KPDJ-TV, San Francisco, KYW-TV, Philadelphia, and WWJ-TV, Detroit, which are capable of transmitting a DTV signal within 18 months of the issuance of the FCC reports and orders adopting service rules and a table of DTV allotments/assignments, and the release of that table, absent circumstances beyond our control.

Circumstances beyond our control include, but are not limited to: (a) inability to construct or otherwise place into operation the appropriate digital television facility, for reasons related to tower siting or construction, zoning, building permits, RF radiation, FAA approval, or other constraints beyond our control; (b) power and broadcast equipment unavailability or unavailability of necessary expertise (e.g. consulting engineers, structural engineers, tower erection crews); or (c) serious channel assignment issues including, but not limited to, Canadian/Mexican frequency coordination issues. In Detroit, another circumstance beyond our control would be the failure of the Commission to grant very promptly a long-pending, uncontested application for modification of the station's NTSC facilities, which is needed both to improve the station's NTSC service to its community and to allow construction of a planned new tower to accommodate both NTSC and DTV transmissions.

We understand that this intention may be taken into account in the Commission's deliberations on DTV service rules, which we vigorously urge be resolved in a report and order adopted this week.

Respectfully submitted,



Chairman Reed E. Hundt
Commissioner James H. Quello
Commissioner Susan B. Ness
Commissioner Rachelle B. Chong
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

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FOX TELEVISION STATIONS, INC.
A UNIT OF FOX TELEVISION

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1999 South Bundy Drive
Los Angeles, California 90025-5291
Phone 310 584 3331 • Fax 310 584 2333

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APR 7 1997

Mitchell Stern
President
Chief Operating Officer

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

April 2, 1997

Commissioners the Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

87-268

Dear Commissioners:

Fox Television Stations, Inc. confirms its commitment to install – absent circumstances beyond our reasonable control – DTV transmitter and antenna facilities at WTXF, Philadelphia, WJBK, Detroit and KDFW, Dallas, which will allow the broadcast of the stations on their FCC assigned DTV channels within 18 months of the issuance of FCC decisions adopting service rules and a table of DTV allotments/assignments.

Circumstances beyond our reasonable control include but are not limited to: a) the inability to construct or otherwise place into operation the appropriate digital television facility for reasons related to: structural or wind-loading tower problems, pre-existing contractual obligations or other related problems on existing towers; or the inability to obtain leasing, siting, construction, zoning or building permits; health and safety or other regulatory problems such as RF radiation, EPA, OSHA, FAA, Forest Service, or other land management approvals or other constraints beyond our control; b) power, HVAC or other utility unavailability problems; broadcast equipment delays including tower, transmitter, antenna or other related equipment delays; or the unavailability of necessary expertise (e.g. consulting engineers, structural engineers, installation crews and experts, tower erection or repair crews); inability to obtain additional STL frequencies or facilities and/or inability to install fiber; c) issues of employee and citizen safety; d) material channel assignment, site or power issues including interference with other broadcasters, material degradation in signal coverage, or Canadian/Mexican frequency coordination issues; and, e) any degradation or disruption to current NTSC service.

Fox intends to maintain only the highest level of quality and safety in any effort to this end. Fox will use all reasonable means to efficiently and expeditiously construct these facilities without compromising these important standards.

We understand that this commitment may be taken into account in the Commission's deliberations on DTV service rules which we urge the Commission to resolve expeditiously.

Respectfully submitted,

Mitchell Stern

MS/bn

A NEWS CORPORATION COMPANY

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ABC, Inc.



Alan N. Braverman
Senior Vice President &
General Counsel

April 2, 1997

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Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20554

APR 7 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

Dear Commissioners:

ABC, Inc., the licensee (directly or through subsidiary companies) of KABC-TV (Los Angeles), KGO-TV (San Francisco) and WPVI-TV (Philadelphia) confirms its commitment, based on requests through NAB or MSTV from Commission personnel, to put a DTV signal on the air in each of those cities within 18 months of the issuance of the FCC reports and orders adopting service rules and a table of DTV allotments/assignments, absent circumstances beyond our control.

Circumstances beyond our control include, but are not limited to, (a) inability to construct or otherwise place into operation the appropriate digital television facility, for reasons related to tower siting or construction, zoning, building permits, RF radiation, FAA approval, or other constraints beyond our control; (b) power and broadcast equipment unavailability or unavailability of necessary expertise (e.g., consulting engineers, structural engineers, tower erection crews); or (c) serious channel assignment uncertainties including Canadian/Mexican frequency coordination and other issues.

We understand that this commitment may be taken into account in the Commission's deliberations on DTV service rules, which we vigorously urge be resolved in a report and order adopted this week.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan N. Braverman

AB/ak



P. O. Box 105357 Atlanta, Georgia 30348 (404) 843-5242
A SUBSIDIARY OF COX ENTERPRISES, INC.

Nicholas D. Trigony
President

April 2, 1997

Chairman Reed E. Hundt
Commissioner James H. Quello
Commissioner Rachelle B. Chong
Commissioner Susan Ness
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20054

Dear Mr. Chairman and Commissioners:

Cox Broadcasting, the controlling owner of television station WSB-TV, Atlanta, GA, confirms its commitment, based on requests through NAB or MSTV from Commission personnel, to put a WSB-TV DTV signal on the air within 18 months of the issuance of the FCC reports and orders adopting service rules and table of DTV allotments/assignments, absent circumstances beyond our control.

Circumstances beyond our control include, but are not limited to, (a) inability to construct or otherwise place into operation the appropriate digital television facility, for reasons related to tower siting or construction, zoning, building permits, RF radiation, FAA approval, unanticipated or extraordinary costs, or other constraints beyond our control; (b) power and broadcast equipment unavailability or unavailability of necessary expertise (e.g., consulting engineers, structural engineers, tower erection crews); or (c) serious channel assignment issues including Canadian/Mexican frequency coordination issues.

We understand that this commitment may be taken into account in the Commission's deliberations of DTV service rules, which we vigorously urge be resolved in a report and order adopted this week.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicholas D. Trigony

DTV/FCC

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