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EX PARTE OR LATE FILING

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W., Room 222
Washington, DC 20554

RE: MM Docket No. 97-217 & RM-9060 **EX PARTE**

Dear Ms. Salas:

This letter is written on behalf of the Catholic Television Network ("CTN") regarding recent ex parte filings by the Petitioners in this docket. As the Commission is aware, the Catholic Television Network ("CTN") has repeatedly expressed its concern regarding the significant threat of interference into ITFS stations as a result of licensing transmitters in accordance with the rules set forth in the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, FCC 97-360 (released October 10, 1997).

The pleading cycle in this proceeding closed on February 9, 1998, and the Commission is now being encouraged to issue an order on the proposals by the first week of July, 1998.¹ Yet, on May 15, May 19, and May 22, 1998, the Petitioners submitted several hundred pages in ex parte filings which apparently propose substantial revisions to the rules under consideration in this docket.

Given the magnitude of these filings, CTN believes that it would be unfair for the Commission to rely on this material without giving interested parties time to review, digest and respond to whatever the Petitioners have proposed.

Moreover, given the apparently still developing status of Petitioners' recommendations and the concerns regarding interference recently voiced by other

¹ See Letter from Robert Hostetler of American Telecasting, Inc. to The Honorable Michael K. Powell (filed Apr. 10, 1998).

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Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
June 8, 1998
Page 2

interested parties,² CTN recommends that the Commission take this opportunity to provide all parties an opportunity to comment on the recent revisions to the proposed rules. We request that the Commission issue a Public Notice providing notice of Petitioners' recent ex parte filings and setting a period of 30 days for filing comments.

Respectfully submitted,

CATHOLIC TELEVISION NETWORK

By: 
William D. Wallace

Its Attorney

cc: Roy Stewart
Keith Larson
Barbara Kreisman
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² See Letter from Karen P. Possner of BellSouth to Ms. Magalie Roman Salas (filed May 8, 1998); Letter from Douglas I. Brandon of AT&T Wireless Services, Inc. to Ms. Magalie Roman Salas (filed May 5, 1998).