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November 25, 2015

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

Re: Docket 14-150

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Below are links to YouTube copies of the video presentations made available to the Bureau's staff at a meeting with them on November 23, 2015. Present were Bill Lake, Holly Sauer, Joyce Bernstein, Kevin Harding, Royce Sherlock, Mark Colombo, and Mary Margaret Jackson from the FCC, and representatives of CBS, Meredith Broadcasting, Time Warner Cable and Cablevision, as well as several representatives of PMCM TV, LLC. The videos graphically depict the results of testing done on a variety of TV sets manufactured by different companies to determine how they handled the situation where a station is transmitting with a major channel number PSIP in the same area where a different station is transmitting on the same over-the-air channel as the PSIP. The results show that the non-compliant sets failed to tune the TVs to the desired station in many cases. The videos corroborate the findings that PMCM TV, LLC reported in its September 11, 2015 Request for Emergency Relief and its subsequent tests conducted for Channel 3 in the New Jersey area. The channel pairs had been selected based on a chart provided by the FCC staff which showed all markets where the problem originally identified by PMCM should occur if the problem is generalized.

Albany
<https://youtu.be/ImeAJRMcyiE>

Philadelphia

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<https://youtu.be/cMf-CRn89Pw>

Note that the Albany video was not actually played in the interests of time.

The purpose of the meeting was to confirm whether the problem with reception of the proper signal was limited to the New Jersey operation or generally affected markets where PSIP major channels overlap with the same major channel being operated over-the-air by a different licensee, and, if so, to discuss solutions. The Albany and Philadelphia tests corroborated the New Jersey results. A representative of CSB reported that CBS had independently corroborated the results by its own tests using the same TV set sample. PMCM also reported that several of its clients who had appeared on a list prepared by the Bureau staff of situations where the overlap occurs had experienced the same problem but had not known what the cause was.

PMCM proposed that the best solution for this problem is to restore it to major/minor virtual channel 3.10 on an interim basis pending the Incentive Auction, which might open new VHF PSIP possibilities acceptable to PMCM and not incompatible with anyone else. This solution is known to work technically based on the parties' past experience with PMCM's operations. The 3.10 PSIP also created no known instances of consumer confusion. By contrast, PMCM has gotten complaints on a weekly basis that consumers cannot access its station using PSIP 33. The fact that some viewers are being directed to CBS's New York station (WCBS) when they are trying to access PMCM's New Jersey station is an illustration of how consumer confusion is occurring with the current PSIP.

CBS suggested that best the solution is to educate viewers to input 33.1 instead of 33 when they are trying to access PMCM's channel 3. PMCM pointed out that just last week it had gotten a screen shot from a disgruntled viewer whose TV set had directed him to WCBS even though he had specifically input 33.1 on his remote. (Copy attached) So the "33.1" solution is not a universal fix to the problem identified. More importantly, PMCM pointed out that it would be unfair and unacceptable to require viewers of PMCM alone of all the stations in the New York DMA to click in a complete major/minor channel combo in order to reach a primary station. While this may change in the future with public education, right now, minor channels are identified in the public mind with subchannels rather than primary programming streams. PMCM also pointed out that viewers trying to receive WJLP over the air are misled by the channel 33 PSIP into thinking a UHF antenna will be able to pick up the signal. The reality is that many antennas for over the air reception do not pick up VHF stations, so a consumer has to know that a station's over the air channel is a VHF one rather than the UHF PSIP which she must click on for her TV to tune to the station. It is for this reason that it's essential that a station's PSIP should have a VHF major channel number if its over the air channel is VHF.

The meeting concluded with the FCC staff suggesting that the parties try to work out a mutually agreeable solution.

Sincerely,

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/s/
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Counsel for PMCM TV, LLC

Cc: Bill Lake
Holly Sauer
Joyce Bernstein
Kevin Harding
Royce Sherlock
Mark Colombo
Mary Margaret Jackson
John Logan
Anne Lucey
Ari Moscovitz