



February 29, 2016

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

Re: Notice of Ex Parte Communication, MB Docket Nos. 15-216, 10-71, and GN Docket No. 12-268

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On Thursday, February 25, 2016, the local broadcasters listed below, Erin Dozier and the undersigned of the National Association of Broadcasters met with members of the Media Bureau, including Bill Lake, Martha Heller, Steven Broeckaert, Kathy Berthot, Raelynn Remy, and Diana Sokolow to discuss retransmission consent, exclusivity, the spectrum auction, and the important role broadcasters serve in their communities.

The broadcasters detailed their deep and unique connections to their local communities, including their role in keeping the public safe and informed. They explained the significance of retransmission consent and exclusivity to maintaining their roles in their local communities, and they highlighted the many challenges they face when negotiating retransmission agreements with large MVPDs. Without maintaining the fair and equitable rules in place governing retransmission consent and exclusivity, pay TV operators will simply further pad their bottom lines at the expense of local communities across the nation.

Collectively, the broadcasters in attendance negotiate thousands of retransmission agreements every year without service disruptions. They noted that they have every incentive to reach agreements with each and every MVPD. Rule changes at the FCC will not alter those incentives and instead may only serve to increase the impediments to concluding timely deals. The system in place is one that works as long as the FCC does not leave the door open to MVPDs seeking to use expiring retransmission consent deals as opportunities to enlist the help of policymakers.

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The broadcasters reiterated that they are not asking the Commission to change the retransmission consent or exclusivity rules to favor broadcasters, but instead are asking the Commission to keep in place the current regulatory framework and to close the retransmission and exclusivity proceedings. The best way for the FCC to ensure that consumers have uninterrupted broadcast TV content through MVPD distribution is to have pay TV operators negotiate with broadcasters and not the federal government.

Respectfully Submitted,



Emmy Parsons
Assistant General Counsel
Legal and Regulatory Affairs
National Association of Broadcasters

On behalf of:

Justin Sasso	Colorado Broadcasters Assoc.
Evan Pappas	KOAA-TV
Vance Harrison	Oklahoma Assoc. of Broadcasters
Kevin Schrader	KCRG-TV/Gray Television
Mary Margaret Nelms	Sinclair Broadcasting/WCIV/WMMP TV
Margaret Wallace	SC Broadcasters Association
Coby Cooper	Nexstar, WCIA-TV/WCIX-TV
Dennis Lyle	Illinois Broadcasters Assoc.
Charles Marshall	Brooks Pierce
Richard Dyer	WLWT-TV, Ohio Assoc. of Broadcasters chair
Christine Merritt	Ohio Assoc. of Broadcasters
Michelle Vetterkind	Wisconsin Broadcasters Assoc.
Tracey Rogers	Raycom Media/WMC-TV, TN Assoc. of Broadcasters
Roger Bare	KIAH-TV
Jeff Block	KGTV-TV/KZSD-TV
Scott Chorski	WKBT-TV

cc: Bill Lake, Martha Heller, Steven Broeckaert, Kathy Berthot, Raelynn Remy, Diana Sokolow