

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

Re: Notice of Ex Parte Communication – Promoting Innovation and Competition in the Provision of Multichannel Video Programming Distribution Services, MB Docket No. 14-261; Promoting the Availability of Diverse and Independent Sources of Video, MB Docket No. 16-41; Expanding Consumers’ Video Navigation Choices, MB Docket No. 16-42

Dear Ms. Dortch:

In a meeting on May 23, 2016, the undersigned representatives of Pluto, Inc. (“Pluto”) met with Gigi Sohn, Counselor to the Chairman regarding the above referenced proceedings.

The Pluto representatives provided a demonstration of the Pluto TV linear online video service. They discussed the importance of assuring competition in the licensing/acquisition of programming to achieve the stated goals of the above referenced proceedings, particularly with regard to anti-competitive provisions routinely demanded by legacy multichannel video programming distributors (“legacy MVPDs”) in their affiliation agreements with network programmers against emerging Internet-based multichannel video programming distributors. They explained that these provisions typically are especially strong and harmful for diverse and independent programmers due to their lesser leverage.

To create a level playing field and expand consumer choice, the Pluto representatives expressed their support for the proposed rulemakings, and urged that they contain sufficient safeguards against the penalization, restriction, or retaliation against programmers for distributing to such emerging online video services per their agreements with legacy MVPDs, and prevent the enforcement of any such existing provisions. They also discussed other points consistent with Pluto’s previously filed comments in the MB Docket No. 14-261 proceeding.

This letter is being submitted electronically pursuant to Section 1.1206(b) of the Commission’s Rules. Please contact the undersigned if you have any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

Pluto, Inc.

By: _____/s/
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cc: Gigi Sohn