



Los Angeles County Office of Education

June 21, 1999

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Ms. Magali Salas  
Secretary, Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Ref: Exparte presentation - DBS public interest  
MM93-25

Dear Secretary Salas:

On June 14, 1999, I met with Deputy Chief Rosalee Chiara to discuss the F.C.C. ruling requiring DBS licensees to set aside four percent of channel capacity exclusively for non-commercial educational programming.

I represent TEAMS Distance Learning, a project at the Los Angeles County Office of Education which delivers educational programming via KU-Band satellite to elementary and middle school students across the United States. Several months ago, I was approached by EchoStar and invited to deliver our programming over direct broadcast satellite. I had several concerns about the contract presented to us by EchoStar and wanted additional clarification from a representative of the F.C.C. I registered some specific concerns about the contract language as presented to us by Echostar - the one-sidedness of the contract, the use of the 61.5 bird, and the lack of clear partnership goals. TEAMS spends approximately two million dollars each year to produce educational programming, and we feel that the DBS provider should provide an equal amount for marketing and staff to organize the scheduling of educational channel programming. Deputy Chief Chiara was most helpful in responding to my questions.

Sincerely,

Donald S. Lake  
Senior Project Director  
TEAMS Distance Learning

DSL:gr

cc: Rosalee Chiara, Deputy Chief, Satellite Policy Branch

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