EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

ORIGINAL

RECEIVED

JUN 2 2 1999

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

VERNER · LIIPFERT
BERNHARD · McPHERSON AND HAND
CHARTERED

901 - 15TH STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005-2301
(202) 371-6000
FAX: (202) 371-6279

June 15, 1999

VIA HAND DELIVERY

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Ex Parte Presentation
Introduction of Digital Audio Broadcasting in the AM and FM Broadcast Services
RM-9395

Dear Ms. Salas:

On Friday, June 11,1999, Suren Pai of Lucent Digital Radio, Mary McManus of Lucent Technologies, Philip Verveer of Wilkie, Farr & Gallagher, and the undersigned met with Chairman Kennard; his Senior Legal Advisor, Thomas Power; and Robert Ratcliffe, Deputy Chief, and Keith Larson, Assistant Chief, of the Mass Media Bureau.

Lucent discussed matters related to implementing in-band on-channel (IBOC) digital broadcasting, including the Commission's role in governing the future digital system. Lucent stated that it expects its digital IBOC systems to be developed and field tested by the end of 1999; and that in conjunction with this testing, it is studying the Commission's low power FM proposals to determine whether they may affect the future transition of broadcasting from analog to digital. The Commission's announced intention to issue a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to address rules for governing AM and FM digital broadcasting is a welcome development and will accelerate the IBOC testing necessary to produce reliable detailed technical information about the competing digital systems. Lucent also noted the support recently expressed by the National Association of Broadcasters' DAB Task Force for the FCC to begin a rulemaking on digital radio as soon as possible.

No. of Copies rec'd 1
List ABCDE

Pursuant to Section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, an original and one copy of this letter are being filed in the above-referenced proceeding. Please direct any questions regarding this matter to the undersigned.

Sincerely,

David R. Siddall

cc: Chairman Kennard
Thomas Power
Robert Ratcliffe
Keith Larson