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MICHAEL O. LEAVITT
GOVERNOR

OLENE S. WALKER
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

RECEIVED

March 1, 2000

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FCC MAIL ROOM

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington DC 20554

Re: DTV Rulemaking Proceeding, MM Docket No. 99-197, RM-9573

Ladies and Gentlemen:

It has come to my attention that the request by DTV Utah for the reallocation of DTV channel assignments in the Salt Lake City area has not yet been processed.

This proceeding (MM Docket No. 99-197, RM-9573) has been subject to lengthy delays which are jeopardizing the success of the project, and threatening the public interest benefits that will flow from it. DTV Utah filed its petition for rulemaking on March 12, 1999, after months spent designing the project to maximize the public benefits and minimize FCC issues.

The economies and efficiencies of this project through the construction of fewer digital towers are direct benefits to the people of Utah. The project will increase consumer interest and access to DTV services. Considerable time, effort, and expense have been devoted to this project by the eight stations involved. DTV Utah has worked extensively with the LPTV and translator communities to ensure that not one translator or LPTV in the State of Utah will be displaced by DTV Utah's digital operations.

These efforts involved (1) the filing of approximately 135 translator displacement applications to effect a master translator plan, and (2) coordination with the LPTV community to develop a channel plan that ensures no LPTV will go off the air as a result of this project. Without favorable and immediate action, this delicate regional plan is threatened and will result in destructive uncertainty for DTV Utah stations and Utah's LPTV and translator communities.

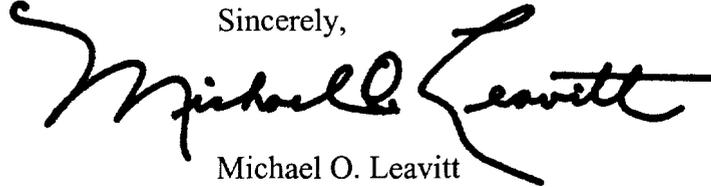
There exists only a short window of time in the summer during which DTV construction is possible. A fast and favorable resolution of the rulemaking will permit DTV Utah stations to construct their facilities and finalize their DTV plans in time to file maximization applications by the May 1, 2000 deadline imposed by Congress in the

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Community Broadcasters Protection Act of 1999.

For these reasons, and others, I would strongly encourage the Commission to act swiftly to bring this matter to conclusion.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael O. Leavitt". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "M" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Michael O. Leavitt
Governor

cc: Dan J. Alpert, Esquire
Counsel for Utah Communications, LLC

Pete Warren
For Tooele 36, LLC