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ORIGINAL

March 31, 2000

Magalie Roman Salas, Esq.
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
The Portals
Washington, DC 20554

RECEIVED
MAR 31 2000
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Re: Written Ex Parte Presentation
CS Docket No. 98-120
WT Docket No. 99-168

Dear Ms. Salas:

Pursuant to Section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, this letter is submitted, in duplicate, in the above two docketed proceedings to advise the Commission that the attached letters were served on all of the Commissioners today. Please direct any questions regarding this matter to the undersigned.

Very truly yours,



John R. Feore, Jr.

Enclosure

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013



Lowell W. Paxson / Chairman

March 31, 2000

Chairman William E. Kennard
Federal Communications Commission
The Portals - 445 12th Street SW
Room 8B-201
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Kennard:

In the next 68 days, the FCC has an opportunity of historic proportion to shape the communications industry, the Internet and the country at large, and it all depends on your adoption of digital must carry.

- **The opportunity to deposit in the U.S. Treasury upwards of \$10 billion by September of this year.**
- **The immediate release of scarce spectrum to jump start wireless competition in the Internet marketplace.**
- **A dramatic acceleration in the conversion of the nation's television stations to digital**

These are not idle or preposterous predictions but flow inevitably from one FCC decision: Adoption of digital must carry rights for television stations.

If the FCC concludes its two year old must carry proceeding and adopts rules providing television broadcasters with full digital must carry rights for their free programming services, then those broadcasters operating in the Channel 59-69 band will have a strong incentive to negotiate with parties bidding on the 700 MHz spectrum to move their analog television operations thereby freeing up that spectrum for maximum use, perhaps in developing a wireless Internet. Paxson Communications Corporation ("PCC") knows that an FCC decision on digital must carry will lead to the benefits noted above because PCC is at the center of this issue. Over the past several months, PCC has been urging the FCC to adopt a digital must carry plan that is designed to free up the analog spectrum, promote the digital transition, guarantee viewer access to digital programming, and be fair and reasonable for cable operators. At the same time, PCC owns 18 of the 96 television stations identified by the FCC in its 700 MHz auction notice and has



Chairman William E. Kennard
March 31, 2000
Page 2

been in conversations with other television owners who, together with PCC, control nearly 40 of the 96 affected television stations. These owners, like PCC, are committed to negotiating the early release of their spectrum with the 700 MHz auction winners if the FCC has in place a workable digital must carry scheme.

Digital must carry will permit private parties negotiating privately to raise billions of dollars for the U.S. Treasury, accelerate the floundering digital television transition and open up scarce spectrum for the wireless Internet explosion. **This market-driven process rather than government mandated relocations will work and will begin to work immediately once the FCC adopts digital must carry rules.**

I am anxious to share PCC's comprehensive digital must carry proposal with each of you and your staffs and to discuss all aspects of the proposal outlined above at your earliest convenience. My counsel will be contacting you today to attempt to arrange a meeting early next week.

Very truly yours,

Lowell W. Paxson
Chairman
Paxson Communications Corporation



Lowell W. Paxson / Chairman

March 31, 2000

Commissioner Susan Ness
Federal Communications Commission
The Portals - 445 12th Street SW
Room 8B-115
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Commissioner Ness:

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Chairman
Paxson Communications Corporation



Lowell W. Paxson / Chairman

March 31, 2000

Commissioner Harold Furchtgott-Roth
Federal Communications Commission
The Portals - 445 12th Street SW
Room 8A-302
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Commissioner Furchtgott-Roth:

In the next 68 days, the FCC has an opportunity of historic proportion to shape the communications industry, the Internet and the country at large, and it all depends on your adoption of digital must carry.

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Lowell W. Paxson
Chairman
Paxson Communications Corporation



Lowell W. Paxson / Chairman

March 31, 2000

Commissioner Gloria Tristani
Federal Communications Commission
The Portals - 445 12th Street SW
Room 8C-302
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Commissioner Tristani:

In the next 68 days, the FCC has an opportunity of historic proportion to shape the communications industry, the Internet and the country at large, and it all depends on your adoption of digital must carry.

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Lowell W. Paxson
Chairman

Paxson Communications Corporation



Lowell W. Paxson / Chairman

March 31, 2000

Commissioner Michael Powell
Federal Communications Commission
The Portals - 445 12th Street SW
Room 8A-204A
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Commissioner Powell:

In the next 68 days, the FCC has an opportunity of historic proportion to shape the communications industry, the Internet and the country at large, and it all depends on your adoption of digital must carry.

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