



Jack N. Goodman

Senior Vice President & General Counsel
Legal & Regulatory Affairs
1771 N Street, NW • Washington, DC 20036-2891
(202) 429-5459 • Fax: (202) 775-3526
jgoodman@nab.org

May 18, 2001

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: MM Docket No. 00-39, DTV Biennial Review

Dear Ms. Salas:

On Wednesday, May 16, a meeting was held between representatives of the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB) and members of the Commission's staff concerning digital television issues. Attending the meeting for the NAB were the following members of NAB's Executive Committee: Jim Yager (Benedek Broadcasting), Ben Tucker (Fisher Broadcasting), Mike McCarthy (Belo), and David Kennedy (Susquehanna Radio). NAB staff included Jeff Baumann, Chuck Sherman, Karen Kirsch, and the undersigned.

Commission staff attending the meeting were Roy Stewart, Robert Ratcliffe, Rick Chessen, Barbara Kreisman, Mary Beth Murphy, Susanna Zwerling, and Jamila Best Johnson of the Mass Media Bureau; Robert Pepper, Jonathan Levy, and Amy Nathan from the Office of Plans and Policy; Bruce Franca of the Office of Engineering Technology; Bill Johnson, Eloise Gore, and Deborah Klein of the Cable Services Bureau; James Schlichting of the Wireless Bureau; Ben Golant of the office of Commissioner Furchtgott-Roth; and William Friedman of the office of Commissioner Tristani.

We discussed concerns of broadcasters about the digital transition, including the May 2002 construction deadline, the effects of the Commission's January decision requiring stations to replicate their analog service areas by 2004 or face the potential of losing protection, and the need for other steps such as must carry. We focused in particular on the impact on stations in smaller markets and on smaller stations operating in large markets.

We also discussed how Commission reform of the duopoly rules to permit common ownership of two stations in smaller markets would ease the difficulties of financing and constructing digital facilities in those markets.

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
May 18, 2001
Page 2

Please direct any questions concerning this matter to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jack N. Goodman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

Jack N. Goodman

cc: FCC Staff attending the meeting