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Lowell W. Paxson / Chairman

March 27, 2002

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Mr. William F. Caton
Acting Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
The Portals
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

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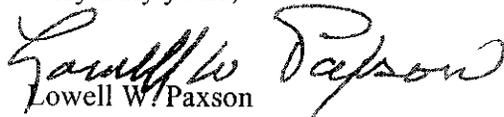
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Re: Notification of Ex Parte Communication
CS Docket No. 98-120
WT Docket No. 99-168
DA-02-260

Dear Mr. Caton:

Pursuant to Section 1.1206 of the FCC's Rules, this letter is submitted, in duplicate, to advise you that on Monday, March 25, 2002, the undersigned met with Commissioner Kevin J. Martin to discuss the ongoing efforts of the Spectrum Clearing Alliance and the broadcasters in the Channels 59-69 band who are interested in voluntary clearing agreements and to outline the status of the band clearing applications that have been filed by Paxson Communications Corporation. The undersigned discussed the need for prompt FCC action on all band clearing applications and urged the FCC to hold the auction of licenses for the 747-762 and 777-792 MHz bands on June 19, 2002 as scheduled. The undersigned also emphasized the need for full digital must-carry for television stations and noted that digital must carry for television stations was granted by Congress in the 1992 Cable Act. The FCC was simply left with the task of making whatever technical changes are necessary to ensure digital must carry and it has failed to do so after nearly four years of rulemaking. In addition, the vast majority of broadcasters will not gain digital must carry through negotiations with cable operators. The television networks may reach agreements but the hundreds of television stations not owned by the four major networks will left at the mercy of cable without must-carry implementation. Finally, all commercial broadcast stations are now planning their DTV construction; applications are on file at the FCC, plans are being finalized and equipment is being ordered, all on an FCC-mandated schedule. The FCC must not turn its back and require broadcasters to spend millions of dollars to upgrade their facilities without guaranteeing cable carriage in their markets.

Very truly yours,


Lowell W. Paxson

Chairman

Paxson Communications Corporation

1 of 2 Copies sent
USABODE 012

cc: Commissioner Kevin J. Martin
Catherine Bohigian
John R. Feore, Jr.