May 19, 2003

The Honorable Michael K. Powell
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, SW
Washington, DC 20024

Dear Chairman Powell:

As a courtesy, I write to inform you that I have sent the attached letter to Chairman Donaldson of the Securities and Exchange Commission. Because the letter refers to allegations involving companies with a matter pending before the Federal Communications Commission, I thought the letter might be of interest.

I appreciate your consideration and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Tim Johnson
United States Senate

cc: Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy
Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein
Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Kevin J. Martin
May 19, 2003

The Honorable William H. Donaldson
Chairman
Securities and Exchange Commission
450 Fifth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20549

Dear Chairman Donaldson:

As you may know, a merger between Hispanic Broadcasting Corporation (HBC) and Univision is currently pending before the Federal Communications Commission.

As this merger has come under public scrutiny, allegations have been brought to my attention which, if true, are quite troubling. I wanted to make the Commission aware of these reports.

Certain public documents¹ allege that one of the parties, Clear Channel, which is the largest single shareholder of HBC, has acted intentionally to prevent Spanish Broadcasting System (SBS) from competing in Spanish language radio by blocking that company's access to capital for purposes of SBS' initial public offering. Those same documents include further allegations that SBS, because of its Hispanic ownership, was subject to discrimination, unorthodox review or other inappropriate hurdles to accessing capital.

In addition, it has been alleged that Univision prematurely announced to the press on or before February 27, 2003 that it had reached a tentative agreement with the United States Department of Justice for approval of the merger. However, the Department of Justice did not file a proposed consent decree until March 26, 2003. There appears to have been some movement in the stock prices of the relevant companies that coincided with the February 27, 2003 announcement, which received significant press attention.

¹ A complaint and amended complaint filed in conjunction with case no. 02-CV-21755-SEITZ in the U.S. District Court, Southern District of Florida, Miami Division, present sworn deposition testimony of three Clear Channel executives participating in or apparently with knowledge of the alleged activity: Clear Channel Chief Executive Officer Lowry Mays, Chief Financial Officer Randall Mays and Clear Channel subsidiary HBC's Chief Financial Officer Jeffrey Hinson. These depositions allegedly provide the executives' testimony of interaction with executives at financial institutions that impeded or prevented competitor SBS from receiving financing. It is my understanding that the depositions are partially under seal.
As I mentioned, these allegations, if true, are troubling. I bring them to your attention for any appropriate action within the Commission's jurisdiction if it should appear that a violation of the federal securities laws may have occurred. I thank you for your attention to this matter and look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Tim Johnson  
United States Senate

cc: Commissioner Cynthia A. Glassman  
Commissioner Harvey I. Goldschmid  
Commissioner Paul S. Atkins  
Commissioner Roe C. Campos