



1200 EIGHTEENTH STREET, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20036

TEL 202.730.1300 FAX 202.730.1301
WWW.HARRISWILTSHIRE.COM

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

October 12, 2004

BY ELECTRONIC FILING

Marlene H. Dortch
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: *Ex Parte Notification*
CS Docket No. 98-120 (also CS Docket Nos. 00-96, and 00-2)

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Pursuant to Section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, this is to inform you that, on October 8, 2004, Romulo Pontual, Susan Eid, and undersigned counsel on behalf of The DIRECTV Group, Inc. ("DIRECTV"), met with Eloise Gore, Rick Chesson, Mary Beth Murphy, William Johnson, Rosalee Chiara, Corie Wright, Pete Bromaghim, Laura Schmoyer, and Ben Bartolome of the Media Bureau and Robert Nelson of the International Bureau. In this meeting, the DIRECTV representatives discussed the enclosed materials, which relate to DIRECTV's plans for carriage of local channels in high definition format and the ways in which the rules applicable to such carriage could have a very different effect on Direct Broadcast Satellite operators than they do on cable operators because of their differing technologies. In addition, the DIRECTV representatives discussed the technological challenges presented by carriage of multicast programming rather than a single stream of high definition programming.

Sincerely yours,

|s\

William M. Wiltshire

Enclosures

HARRIS, WILTSHIRE & GRANNIS

Marlene H. Dortch

October 12, 2004

Page 2

cc: Eloise Gore
Rick Chessen
Mary Beth Murphy
William Johnson
Rosalee Chiara
Corie Wright
Pete Bromaghim
Laura Schmoyer
Ben Bartolome
Robert Nelson