

# WILLKIE FARR & GALLAGHER<sup>LLP</sup>

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February 3, 2005

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

*Ex Parte Notice*

Re: Carriage of Digital Television Broadcast Signals, CS Docket No. 98-120  
(also CS Docket Nos. 00-96 and 00-2)

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On February 2, Brian Roberts, President, Chief Executive Officer, and Chairman of the Board of Comcast Corporation (“Comcast”), discussed the above-captioned proceeding in meetings with Chairman Powell, Commissioner Abernathy and Matt Brill, Commissioner Martin and Catherine Bohigian, and Commissioner Adelstein and Eric Bash. Mr. Roberts was accompanied by Kerry Knott, Comcast’s Vice President, Federal Government Affairs, and James R. Coltharp, Comcast’s Chief Policy Advisor, FCC & Regulatory Policy, for each of the meetings other than with Chairman Powell, as well as by the undersigned for the meeting with Commissioner Abernathy.

The discussion in these meetings generally covered matters that have been placed on the public record in previous ex parte reports and submissions filed by Comcast. In addition, Mr. Roberts reported that Comcast’s strong commitment to digital television is reflected both in its having far exceeded its commitments under the Powell plan and in its just-released announcement that Comcast has now deployed more than one million HDTV-capable set-top boxes in customers’ homes, more than 800,000 of them in 2004 alone. Mr. Roberts also discussed Comcast’s continuing progress in offering consumers access to an abundance of diverse programming, including both linear and video-on-demand programming. He explained that Comcast’s strong interest in carrying quality local programming, including (but not limited to) that which is (or will be) available from local broadcasters, is strengthened by competitive market forces; cable companies have a stronger relationship with and commitment to the communities they serve than do Direct Broadcast Satellite providers, and offering more quality local programming to consumers can be a source of competitive advantage. This is another powerful reason, in addition to statutory and constitutional considerations, why government should not expand its role in dictating the allocation of cable bandwidth.

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Please let me know if you have any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ James L. Casserly\_\_\_\_\_

James L. Casserly

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cc: Chairman Powell  
Commissioner Abernathy  
Commissioner Martin  
Commissioner Adelstein  
Eric Bash  
Catherine Bohigian  
Matt Brill