HARRIS,
WILTSHIRE &
GRANNIS LLP

1200 EIGHTEENTH STREET, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20036

TEL 202.730.1300 FAX 202.730.1301
WWW.HARRISWILTSHIRE.COM

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

8 April 2005

Ex Parte

Ms. Marlene Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Re: *Unlicensed Operation in the TV Broadcast Bands, ET Docket No. 04-186*

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On 7 April 2005, undersigned counsel for Microsoft Corporation met with Paul Margie, legal adviser to Commissioner Copps, to discuss the above-captioned proceeding.

Specifically, I urged the Commission to conclude this proceeding promptly and permit vacant TV channels to be used for unlicensed wireless devices. In doing so, I argued that because of its superior propagation characteristics, a wireless broadband network could be built in spectrum below 1 GHz with roughly one-half of the capital needed to build a similar network in the 2.4 or 5 GHz bands. I also argued that developments in the 5 GHz band plainly demonstrated the ability of wireless device manufacturers to detect and avoid channels that are in use by broadcasters. Finally, I suggested that the record in the proceeding would demonstrate that the expressed concerns of wireless microphone manufacturers should not be an impediment to the use of vacant TV channels for wireless broadband.

In accordance with FCC rules, I ask that this letter be filed in the above-captioned docket.

Sincerely yours,

Scott Harris

Scott Blake Harris
Counsel to Microsoft Corporation

cc: Paul Margie