



1200 EIGHTEENTH STREET, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20036

TEL 202.730.1300 FAX 202.730.1301
WWW.HARRISWILTSHIRE.COM

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

7 December 2006

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; IP-Enabled Services, WC Docket, No. 04-36; Proposal for Bi-Directional Digital Cable Compatibility and Related Issues CS Docket No. 97-80; In the Matter of Comcast's Request for Waiver of 47 FRC 67/1204(a)1), CSR-7012-Z.

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On 6 December 2006, Craig Mundie, Ian Ferrell, Jack Krumholtz and Paula Boyd of Microsoft, and undersigned counsel, met with Commissioner Tate and her advisor, Chris Robbins. During this meeting a brief discussion was held regarding the above-noted dockets.

The primary purpose of Mr. Mundie's visit was to highlight the importance of the United States maintaining its international competitiveness and the impact of greater broadband deployment and the development and introduction of new technologies on achieving this goal.

In his discussion, Mr Mundie touched on two policy areas: white spaces and the converging IP network. Specifically, Mr. Mundie indicated that Microsoft strongly supported granting prompt access to the television band white spaces for unlicensed devices (including personal and portable devices), and that there was no technical reason to wait for the digital TV transition. He also indicated that a worthwhile policy approach by the Commission might be to identify and pursue a limited set of core policy objectives such as E911, Universal Service, CALEA, and Network Neutrality. The Commission should pursue these finite set of objectives in a way that takes into account the structure of the IP platform and regulates only where necessary and then only in the most limited manner possible. In response to a question, he indicated that he accepted that some regulation was necessary for national security purposes and believed that net neutrality can be implemented in a way that meets the needs of network operators, application and service providers, and consumers.

In response to a question from the Commissioner on cable waivers, Mr. Mundie noted that Microsoft had outlined a joint approach in 2005 reflecting an interest in pursuing one-way services, two-way services, multi-stream cards, and downloadable conditional access. He also noted that there had been progress on one-way services and expressed an interest in continuing to work towards a solution on the other issues. Finally, he noted Microsoft's opposition to any requirements that cable services be disaggregated.

Please let me know if you have any questions about this filing.

Sincerely yours,

Scott Blake Harris

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cc: Commissioner Tate's Office