



1200 EIGHTEENTH STREET, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20036

TEL 202.730.1300 FAX 202.730.1301
WWW.HARRISWILTSHIRE.COM

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

8 February 2008

Ex Parte

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

Re: *Ex Parte Presentation*, MB Docket No. 03-15, MB Docket No. 07-91

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On February 7, 2008, Dominic Perri, Executive Director of the Coalition for Independent Rating Services (“Coalition”) and Patricia Paoletta of Harris, Wiltshire & Grannis met with Rick Chessen, Media Advisor to Commissioner Michael J. Copps. They informed Mr. Chessen of their offer to support proposals by Commissioner Michael J. Copps to hold digital transition test markets prior to the end of analog television transition on February 17, 2009.

The Coalition expressed the belief that such tests could not only identify possible problems on transition day, but could also serve as a very powerful real world example of the benefits of digital television (“DTV”).

Thanks to the National Telecommunications Information Agency’s converter box program, millions of Americans with older televisions will, many for the first time, have availability to features such as the DTV Emergency Alert System, Parental Controls (“V-chip”) and Close Captioning Information.

The Coalition suggested that any transition test market also include a test of V-chip capability to provide additional updated and improved ratings. After consultation with other public interest groups, the Coalition will provide a sample V-chip test for the Commission to consider.

The Coalition pledged, in co-operation with interested parties, to quickly develop and make available to the Commission a test ratings template that would provide parents

in the test areas additional tools not currently available from television stations. The Coalition believes such a test would serve to highlight the many benefits of DTV beyond improved picture and sound and would help increase interest in, and understanding of the DTV transition. Compliance with the Commission's V-chip regulations was also discussed during the meeting.

Pursuant to Section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, copies of this letter are being filed via ECFS with your office. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "P. A. Paoletta".

Patricia Paoletta
*Counsel for the Coalition for
Independent Rating Services*

cc: Rick Chessen