



February 15, 2008

**BY ELECTRONIC FILING**

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

Re: *Ex Parte Presentation in MB Dockets No. 98-120, 00-96, and 07-91*

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Hanno Basse, DIRECTV's Vice President of Broadcast Systems Engineering, and I met yesterday with representatives of the Commission's Media and International Bureaus to discuss issues related to satellite carriage of high definition ("HD") broadcast signals. Present on behalf of the Commission were Monica Desai, Eloise Gore, Lyle Eder, Rosalee Chiara, Jeffrey Neuman, Chip Fleming, and Robert Nelson.

Our discussion concerned issues raised in DIRECTV's *ex parte* of February 13, 2008 in the above-captioned proceedings, in which DIRECTV urged the Commission to adopt a reasonable implementation date for any "HD carry-one, carry-all" rule, coupled with quantifiable, measurable benchmarks for compliance. DIRECTV emphasized in particular the fact that HD carry-one, carry-all is *not* necessary to achieve continuity of service during and after the digital transition. To the contrary, such a rule would require satellite carriers to provide services that they do not provide today, and, if not implemented on a reasonable schedule, would hinder our ability to ensure continuity of existing services through the transition.

DIRECTV also pointed out that it would be extraordinarily wasteful to set aside spectrum for this purpose for broadcasters transmitting only *de minimus* amounts of HD programming. Because DIRECTV cannot know when stations will carry HD programming – though it is likely that all will do so in prime time – DIRECTV must ensure that it can simultaneously carry each and every station that carries *any* HD programming. In other words, in order to assure its ability to comply with an unqualified HD carry-one, carry-all requirement, DIRECTV would have to reserve the same capacity for a station that transmits one hour of HD programming per week as it does for a station that transmits full-time in HD. The Commission should not require satellite carriers to engage in such an inefficient use of valuable and finite spectrum resources.

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Pursuant to the Commission's rules, I am filing one copy of this letter electronically in MB Dockets No. 98-120, 00-96, and 07-91.

Sincerely,

/s/

Stacy Fuller  
Vice President, Regulatory Affairs

cc: Monica Desai  
Eloise Gore  
Lyle Eder  
Rosalee Chiara  
Jeffrey Neuman  
Chip Fleming  
Robert Nelson