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ATTORNEYS AT LAW

March 21, 2008

Ex Parte

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

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

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On March 19-20, 2008, on behalf of Microsoft Corp. and Philips Electronics North America Corp., Edmond Thomas spoke via telephone with Julius Knapp, Chief of the Office of Engineering and Technology, and met with Rashmi Doshi, Chief of the OET laboratory, regarding field measurements the Commission intends to undertake as part of its white spaces testing.

Mr. Thomas observed that the purpose of field measurements is to collect data in support of the Commission rulemaking. Mr. Thomas noted that some data can be easily and more appropriately collected using conventional commercially available test equipment. For example, the power level of a broadcast signal close to a TV transmitter can be determined with an industry standard spectrum analyzer. On the other hand, white space test devices will provide useful data regarding the sensing threshold needed to protect broadcast signals in the presence of a hidden node, as well as the susceptibility of broadcast signals to various white space device transmission power levels.

Mr. Thomas also suggested that, since white space test devices had achieved sensitivity far exceeding the detection threshold proposed by the White Spaces Coalition, the Commission could insert RF attenuators between the white space devices' receive antennas and the device itself to allow the Commission to adjust the sensitivity as part of its field measurements. Finally, Mr. Thomas reiterated that when the Commission determines the appropriate operating parameters and certification procedures for white space devices, all commercial devices will comply with these requirements.

HARRIS, WILTSHIRE & GRANNIS LLP

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
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Pursuant to the Commission's rules, a copy of this notice is being filed electronically in the above-referenced docket. If you require any additional information please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Edmond J. Thomas', written in a cursive style.

Edmond J. Thomas
Senior Technology Policy Advisor

cc: Julius Knapp
Rashmi Doshi