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June 5, 2008

Hon. Marlene Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Ms. Dortch:

RE: Notice of *Ex Parte* Communication, Docket Nos. EB 04-296 and EB 06-119 (EAS)

This reports on the following meetings and telephone calls my Research Assistant, Marcella Gadson, and I held on the subject of multilingual emergency broadcasting: (1) a meeting June 3, 2008 with Rudy Brioche, Legal Advisor to Commissioner Jonathan Adelstein, and Rick Chessen, Legal Advisor to Commissioner Michael Copps; (2) a meeting June 3, 2008 with Amy Blankenship, Legal Advisor to Commissioner Deborah Tate; (3) a meeting June 3, 2008 with Erika Olsen, Deputy Chief, Public Safety & Homeland Security Bureau (Matthew Leibowitz, General Counsel of the Florida Association of Broadcasters ("FAB"), participated by teleconference), and (4) a June 4, 2008 telephone call I had with Cristina Pauze, Legal Assistant to Commissioner Robert McDowell.

During each meeting or call, I reported that collaborative discussions had taken place among the Independent Spanish Broadcasters Association (ISBA), the Office of Communication of the United Church of Christ, Inc. ("UCC") the Minority Media and Telecommunications Council ("MMTC"), the National Association of Broadcasters ("NAB") and the FAB (collectively, the "Organizations"). The Organizations are in agreement that multilingual populations deserve radio service in emergencies, and that in order to better understand the practical and cost issues associated with providing this service, a test would be desirable. ISBA, UCC and MMTC, with input from the NAB and FAB, have developed a "Trial Plan for Universal Emergency Broadcasting" ("Test Plan"). The NAB, FAB and other broadcast organizations will cooperate in effectuating the Test Plan. The Test Plan will cover approximately 20 radio markets and will take place during 2008 hurricane season -- August through October 2008. During the test, selected broadcasters will voluntarily provide multilingual broadcasts attendant to emergencies such as hurricanes. Further, the Organizations will consider the practicability of deploying a portable, temporary radio station on the frequency of a multilingual station that has been taken off the air during an emergency.

In July 2008, three planning conferences will be held for broadcasters participating in the test. Officials of the PSHS Bureau and Media Bureau, the Department of Homeland Security, NOAA, NWS, and governors and state emergency officials will be invited to participate in the planning conferences. An evaluation of the test will be completed in November 2008.

Contemporaneously with the submission of this letter, ISBA, UCC, MMTC are filing with the Commission a Memorandum describing the Test Plan and a request to defer, until December 31, 2008, action on the multilingual issues in Dockets 04-296 and 06-119.

Sincerely,

David Honig

David Honig
Executive Director, MMTC
Counsel for ISBA, UCC and MMTC