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**Via Electronic Submission and Hand Delivery**

Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: Petition for Declaratory Ruling Regarding Public, Educational and Governmental  
Programming - MB Docket No. 09-13, CSR-8126, CSR-8127, CSR-8128**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

During our recent demonstration of U-verse TV, there were questions concerning the aspect ratio and resolution of standard definition commercial and PEG programming on U-verse TV. I write to provide clarification, to the extent it is needed, on this point.

The aspect ratio of an image refers to the ratio of its width to its height. The National Television Systems Committee ("NTSC") aspect ratio for standard definition television programming is 4:3. Consistent with this standard, the images AT&T receives from both PEG and standard definition television programming providers are encoded and decoded at a 4:3 aspect ratio. As a result, the images are displayed on the viewer's screen at a 4:3 aspect ratio, with no cropping or stretching of the image. Display resolution, on the other hand, is often expressed as the total number of pixels — the smallest component in an image — that make up the image that appears on the viewer's screen. AT&T encodes both PEG and standard definition commercial programming at 480 x 480, meaning there are 480 data points encoded for each line of the image in the horizontal direction, and 480 data points encoded for each line of the image in the vertical direction. The U-verse set top box uses this data to replicate the original 4:3 image and then transmits the image to the subscriber's television set. The exact number of pixels that make up the image is dependent on the pixel resolution of the display device.

I hope this letter provides clarification on the difference between resolution and aspect ratio of an image. If you have any additional questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

/s/ Christopher M. Heimann

cc: Mary Beth Murphy  
Robert Ratcliffe  
Nancy Murphy  
Holly Saurer  
John Wong  
John Norton  
Mike Lance  
John Kiefer  
Alison Neplokh  
Masoud Shafae