

Dispatch Broadcast Group

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MICHAEL J. FIORILE

Vice Chairman

Chief Executive Officer

December 21, 2009

The Hon. Julius Genachowski
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: *Comments - NBP Public Notice # 26*
GN Docket Nos. 09-45, 09-51, and 09-137

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

The Dispatch Broadcast Group owns and operates WBNS(TV), Columbus, Ohio, and WTHR(TV), Indianapolis, Indiana. We are fully maximizing our spectrum to bring to viewers breaking news, emergency weather coverage, and high quality community programming. As explained below, both of our stations provide excellent primary station programming, provide content on multicast channels, and are actively testing mobile broadcasting.

Using our multicast signals, we provide around-the-clock weather programming in both of our markets. WTHR provides full-time local weather programming, and WBNS operates a syndicated national weather channel with local inserts on a multicast channel. This coverage is critical to our viewers during weather emergencies. During snow storms, rain storms, and high winds, viewers flock to these multicast signals for information about where to go and what to do. WTHR also offers a second multicast channel with sports programming that includes Universal Sports content, as well as locally produced sports coverage. In many instances, Indianapolis viewers would not have access to local sports contests and other local coverage without the services provided by WTHR.

We are currently testing mobile broadcasting in Columbus and are hopeful that mobile broadcast will be a reality for our viewers by the second quarter of next year. This exciting technology will make our quality programming and, in particular, breaking news and emergency weather information, available to our viewers on the go. Reducing our spectrum would eliminate our ability to provide the mobile applications we are current contemplating.

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These exciting new efforts are all in addition to our primary channel programming. In both our markets, we average about five hours per day of quality news content. We produce weather specials, air local and state-wide political debates, and focus on producing high quality, responsible journalism in our news segments. Recent examples include our coverage of this year's Ohio state budget and how it affects state taxpayers; the Indiana state government's cancellation of its contract with the state's primary welfare services provider; and food safety issues that have arisen at local restaurants. The local news produced by our outstanding news teams is critical to Columbus and Indianapolis viewers.

Broadcasters like WBNS and WTHR continue to play a vital role in the daily lives of their viewers, and exciting new innovations in digital technology and mobile applications are only increasing the quality of our coverage and our ability to reach viewers.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael J. Fiorile". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Michael J. Fiorile

cc: The Hon. Michael Copps
The Hon. Robert McDowell
The Hon. Mignon Clyburn
The Hon. Meredith Baker
Docket file