



January 19, 2010

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

Re: *National Broadband Plan*, GN Docket No. 09-51
Spectrum for Broadband, GN Docket Nos. 09-47, 09-137

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On January 15, 2010, Larry Sidman, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Association of Public Television Stations (“APTS”), had a telephone conversation with Blair Levin, coordinator of the National Broadband Plan, and Rebecca Hanson, Spectrum Director of the National Broadband Task Force.

The participants discussed the unique nature of the public broadcasting system and local public television stations, and the way stations integrate a variety of delivery methods, including broadcast, Internet, and grassroots outreach, to further their goals of localism, diversity, and education. In particular, stations are increasingly aligning their video programming with their vast amount of Internet-based content, and are developing innovative online applications that can help spur demand for broadband and enhance its utility for the public.

The participants also touched on the subject of current and future spectrum allocations and funding mechanisms for public media. Mr. Sidman emphasized that the ultimate decision regarding the creation of a trust fund to underwrite content development lies with Congress, and APTS looks forward to working with the FCC and Congress to ensure the existence and sufficiency of long-term funding sources for public broadcasters.

Sincerely,

/s/ Lonna Thompson
Lonna Thompson
Senior Vice President and General Counsel