



August 4, 2010

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

Re: ***Notice of Ex Parte Communication, EB Docket No. 04-296***

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Yesterday, Kelly Williams, Larry Walke and the undersigned of the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB); Pat Roberts and Matt Leibowitz of the Florida Association of Broadcasters (FAB) (via phone), met with Lisa Fowlkes, Tom Beers, Greg Cooke and Eric Ehrenreich of the Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the handling of multilingual emergency information during major disasters.

NAB and FAB briefed the bureau on the voluntary efforts of local broadcasters since the July 17, 2008 Florida meeting, including our efforts in the Commission's Communications Security, Reliability and Interoperability Council (CSRIC). Specifically with respect to EAS messages, Florida's Emergency Operation's Center has multilingual resources and sends out multilingual messages. In addition, the "radio in a box" was again discussed, as a promising way to ensure service to non-English speaking residents in the event a non-English language station went off the air. We hope to continue this discussion with additional federal partners.

Further, as the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is on the verge of formally adopting the Common Alert Protocol Standard 1.2 in the coming months, we specifically urged the Commission to (1) integrate multilingual planning into state and local plans as they authorize gubernatorial messaging in the interim and near term and (2) coordinate closely with FEMA and other federal partners such as the National Weather Service to ensure long term planning is being appropriately implemented to ensure timely origination of multilingual EAS alerts.

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Such coordination is critical to assure our common goal – distributing timely and critical information to all persons during times of emergency.

Please direct any questions concerning this matter to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



Ann West Bobeck

cc: Lisa Fowlkes
Tom Beers
Greg Cooke
Eric Ehrenreich