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August 21, 2012

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

Re: Basic Service Tier Encryption; Compatibility Between Cable Systems and Consumer Electronics Equipment, MB Docket No. 11-169, PP Docket No. 00-67.

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On August 17, 2012, Neal Goldberg of the National Cable & Telecommunications Association, Jordan Goldstein of Comcast, Paul Glist of the law firm Davis Wright Tremaine, Jonathan Friedman of the law firm Willkie Farr & Gallagher, and I spoke by telephone with the following Media Bureau staff regarding the Commission's basic tier encryption Notice of Proposed Rulemaking: Michelle Carey, Mary Beth Murphy, Nancy Murphy, Alison Neplokh, and Brendan Murray.

During the call, we discussed the commitments that the six largest incumbent cable operators ("Operators") have agreed to make in an effort to expedite resolution of the above-referenced proceeding. In that regard, we argued that the Commission should not, as some suggest,¹ mandate a particular technology or technology licensing model with respect to the commitments. We underscored the Operators' commitment to make available in good faith any technologies they own and control that are necessary for manufacturers to build compatible IP-capable Clear QAM devices under Option #1 or Option #2. In addition, we reiterated our position that a "sunset" of the Operators' commitments is appropriate. We proposed that the Commission complete any review examining whether those commitments should be continued within a specified period of time, such as six months after the review is initiated, and that, in connection with any such review, the Commission consider the factors set forth in NCTA's letter of July 25, 2012.

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,
/s/ **Rick Chessen**
Rick Chessen

cc: M. Carey
M. Murphy
N. Murphy
A. Neplokh
B. Murray

¹ See CEA *Ex Parte*, MB Dkt. No. 11-169, at 3 (July 31, 2012); Boxee *Ex Parte*, MB Dkt. No. 11-169, at 2 (Aug. 3, 2012).