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VIA ELECTRONIC DELIVERY

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Room TWA325
Washington, DC 20554

**Re: Notice of *Ex Parte* Presentations,
WT Docket No. 12-69**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On November 28, 2012, Scott Wills of Vulcan Wireless LLC (“Vulcan”); Michele Farquhar and Paul Nagle representing Vulcan; Kevin Joseph representing Cavalier Wireless, LLC (“Cavalier”); and Benjamin Moncrief of C Spire Wireless (“C Spire”) held separate meetings with Louis Peraertz of the Office of Commissioner Mignon Clyburn, David Goldman of the Office of Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel, and Renee Wentzel of the Office of Chairman Julius Genachowski. Two of these meetings were attended by additional representatives. Paul Kolodzy, who represents Vulcan, participated in the meeting with Ms. Wentzel. Doug Hyslop, who represents C Spire, participated in the meeting with Mr. Peraertz by telephone.

As described in the attached slides, the participants explained that 700 MHz licensees can restore interoperability on installed equipment in the Lower 700 MHz band at little or no cost. Neither deployed base stations nor existing user equipment would require any additional hardware. For equipment sold to consumers after the effective date of the order, the only physical element to change would be the incorporation of an inexpensive filter component that will be a replacement component to the existing filter. Since the replacement filter would be a replacement component used in all devices, moreover, the common filter component will not result in any incremental cost increases and may potentially result in cost *reductions* due to economies of scale across the larger base of deployed devices. No other hardware changes are required to any components. Ending the two separate band classes that bifurcate operations across the three paired channels in the Lower 700 MHz band will speed broadband deployment, accelerate innovation, and generate cost savings at no material additional expense to incumbents or new entrants.

The representatives also discussed market developments that make acting now to restore interoperability imperative. Without prompt action, A Block licensees who currently use Band Class 12 to deploy their networks will fall further and further behind in both the developmental ecosystem for new features and functions, such as Voice over LTE, and in the global supply chain for incorporation and use in the latest and most advanced handsets and consumer devices. Timely and geographically expansive broadband deployment in the United States would suffer as a result and so would consumers.

The Vulcan and C Spire representatives next noted the extraordinary nature of the situation confronting the Commission in the Lower 700 MHz band. Band Classes have historically *expanded* over time to incorporate more spectrum into the developmental ecosystem and accelerate access to the global supply chain. Never before has a common band specification *contracted* to exclude a portion of the band from those benefits. In this unique situation, the Commission can and should act to remedy the competitive and consumer harms resulting from the use of a carrier-specific band plan. A dominant carrier, such as AT&T, should not be permitted to continue to use its purchasing power to frustrate scale economies and prevent competitors from providing timely broadband services to the public. Instead, the FCC should adopt an interoperability requirement that applies to both base stations and user equipment and ensures a technology-neutral, unified band class exists throughout the Lower 700 MHz A, B and C Blocks.

This notice is filed pursuant section 1.1206(b) of the Commission's rules. Please contact me with any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Michele Farquhar

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cc: David Goldman
Renee Wentzel
Louis Peraertz