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HARRY REID  
NEVADA

**United States Senate** Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-7012

0722

June 08, 2012

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

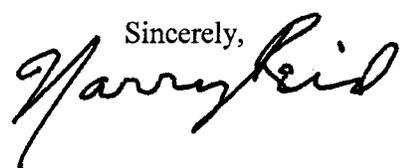
Dear Chairman Genachowski:

Under the Communications Act of 1934 (the Act), the Federal Communications Commission (Commission) has the authority to review and approve indirect foreign investment exceeding 25 percent in broadcast, wireless, and telephone licensees, if such investment satisfies the public interest. Over the past several years, the Commission has successfully applied the public interest criteria on a case-by-case basis to approve indirect foreign investment exceeding 25 percent in wireless and telephone licensees. However, the Commission's current practice does not permit any foreign investment exceeding 25 percent in broadcast licensees, even if such investment would satisfy the public interest. We urge the Commission to reconsider this practice, and review foreign investments exceeding 25 percent in broadcast licensees on a case-by-case basis to determine whether such investments would satisfy the public interest.

In urging the Commission to reconsider its practice regarding indirect foreign investment in broadcast licensees, we remain fully aware of national security concerns that could arise from such investment. For that reason, we would recommend that any such investments are subject to a national security review, such as the so-called "Team Telecom" review established to consider the national security implications of certain foreign investments in wireless and telephone licensees. We also remain fully aware of the importance of policy concerns, such as ensuring that broadcasters represent a diversity of voices and remain free from propaganda. We believe that strict application of the Act's public interest test can ensure these policy goals continue to be met.

Thank you for your consideration of this important issue and please feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,



HARRY REID  
United States Senator  
Nevada

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