

February 11, 2014

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

Re: WT Docket No. 10-88

### **COMMENTS OF NTCH, INC.**

NTCH, Inc. (“NTCH”), by its attorney, hereby offers these comments in connection with the above-captioned proceeding. NTCH supports the American Tower Corporation (“ATC”) in its request that the existing waiver of Section 17.47(b) of the Commission’s rules (the “Tower Inspection Rule”) requiring antenna tower owners to conduct a visual inspection, a minimum of once every three months, of all automatic or mechanical control devices, be made permanent. NTCH owns a number of towers within the United States and would benefit by a similar waiver of the Tower Inspection Rule if it installs remote monitoring capability.

The Tower Inspection Rule imposes real burdens and costs on tower owners, especially owners of many sites. While tower inspections serve a useful purpose in the absence of alternative means of ensuring that towers are properly lighted, reliance on remote monitoring systems is more cost-effective, less subject to human error, and equally if not more effective than visual inspections in serving the intended purpose of the Tower Inspection Rule.

NTCH owns a number of towers within the United States. NTCH understands that there is a necessity to ensure that antenna structure lighting and all associated devices are functioning, but strongly believes that current tower inspection requirements create unnecessary burdens. Commission rules state that a waiver of the Tower Inspection Rule is appropriate when “in view

of the unique or unusual factual circumstances” application of the rule would be “unduly burdensome.”<sup>1</sup> Because remote monitoring systems are equally, if not more effective than visual inspections, and the visual inspections impose substantial burdens on tower owners, a waiver of the rule under the circumstances presented is in the public interest and serves the underlying purpose of the rule. Therefore, NTCH supports ATC's request for permanent waiver of the Tower Inspection Rule.

NTCH, Inc.

\_\_\_\_\_/S/\_\_\_\_\_/By: Donald J.

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<sup>1</sup> 47 C.F.R. §1.925(2)