



November 16, 2006

Via Electronic Mail

Milton Brown  
Office of the Chief Counsel  
National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Room 4713  
Washington, DC 20230

Re: Digital-to-Analog Converter Box Coupon Program (Docket No. 060512129-6129-01)  
Notice of Ex Parte Presentation

Dear Mr. Brown:

National Public Radio, Inc. ("NPR") hereby notifies NTIA of an ex parte presentation in the above-referenced proceeding. See 71 Fed. Reg. 65476 (Nov. 8, 2006).

On Tuesday, November 14, 2005, John Kean, NPR Senior Technologist, and the undersigned met with Chuck Mellone, Bill Cooperman, Jeff Wepman, and Brian Danza to discuss NPR's comments in response to the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in the above-referenced proceeding. Specifically, NPR addressed NTIA's longstanding interest in public radio, including through its Public Telecommunications Facilities Program ("PTFP"), which has provided substantial financial support to public radio stations during the past 35 years. NPR also pointed out that public radio stations operating on the reserved portion of the FM band are subject to Section 73.525 of the Federal Communications Commission's rules which generally require such stations to limit their facilities to protect television stations operating on adjacent television Channel 6 spectrum. NPR maintained that, since adoption of Section 73.525 more than 20 years ago as a temporary measure to account for deficient television receiver set designs, improvement in television receivers, and particularly digital television receivers, has largely obviated the need for the adjacent channel protection requirements. Accordingly, NPR contended that NTIA should implement the digital-to-analog converter box program in a manner that ensures the converter boxes are less susceptible to the adjacent channel interference. Finally, the parties briefly discussed the potential for interference from digital television Channel 6 stations to reserved FM spectrum public radio stations.

Please direct any questions you may have regarding this matter to the undersigned.

Regards,

*Gregory A. Lewis /s/*

Gregory A. Lewis  
Associate General Counsel