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AND CHIEF COUNSEL

The Honorable Kevin J. Martin
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: *In the Matters of Unlicensed Operations in the TV Broadcast Bands, ET Docket 04-186, and Additional Spectrum for Unlicensed Devices Below 900 MHz and in the 3GHz Band, ET Docket 02-380.*

Dear Chairman Martin:

I write concerning the Federal Communications Commission's consideration of the appropriate use of the so-called television white spaces. I ask that this letter be made part of the public record in that proceeding.


I am pleased that the Commission is taking a deliberate, thoughtful approach to the resolution of this issue. The public's airwaves are a vital national resource, the use of which should always be geared toward improving the broad public interest. I believe the Commission's current approach to these issues has, thus far, fulfilled its duty to promote and protect the public interest. I am pleased that the Commission is conducting appropriate testing of sensing devices, and I am confident that the Commission's engineering staff, if given adequate time and resources, can produce thorough and accurate reports.

As the Commission proceeds, it is my hope that it gives all due consideration to all proposals concerning the best use of the white spaces, including those proposals to license some or all of the available spectrum. It is possible that a licensing regime could help mitigate the impact of harmful interference to incumbents in this spectrum. These particular bands of spectrum are extraordinarily valuable and offer the potential for entirely new and innovative services. I urge the Commission to carefully and deliberately weigh each proposal prior to reaching any tentative or preliminary conclusions.

The Honorable Kevin J. Martin
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Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



JOHN D. DINGELL
CHAIRMAN

cc: The Honorable Joe Barton, Ranking Member
Committee on Energy and Commerce

The Honorable Edward J. Markey, Chairman
Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet

The Honorable Cliff Stearns, Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Telecommunications and the Internet