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February 12, 2019

**VIA ELECTRONIC FILING**

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

Re: *Notice of Ex Parte Meeting*  
GN Docket No. 18-122

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Per FCC Rule 1.1206, this letter provides notice that on February 11, 2019, Bill Tolpegin, Chief Executive Officer of the C-Band Alliance (“CBA”); Preston Padden, Head of Advocacy and Government Relations for the CBA; Steve Corda, Vice President Media Platforms, SES; Eileen McGowan, Senior Media Project Manager, Intelsat; and Peter Pitsch, Consultant for Intel Corporation, met with Chairman Ajit Pai and Rachael Bender, legal advisor to Chairman Pai. Also on February 10, 2019, the same group met with Will Adams, Legal Advisor to Commissioner Brendan Carr.

Separately and out of the presence of the other company, SES and Intelsat each presented its respective satellite transponder migration plans to clear 200 MHz of C-Band spectrum for 5G deployment as proposed by the CBA. The presentations showed that every current customer will continue to be served in the C-band and that 200 MHz is the maximum amount of spectrum that can be cleared without denying C-Band service to some current customers. SES and Intelsat emphasized that they will cover all reasonable costs of the transition for every impacted entity — their customers and their customers’ customers, including local broadcast stations and cable systems.

The CBA representatives emphasized that they are committed to an open process for repurposing spectrum. The CBA sent more than 400 certified letters to potentially interested parties. And the CBA has held multiple meetings with wireless carriers, cable companies and others seeking information about each interested party’s needs and preferences regarding amount of spectrum, band sizes, timing and other aspects of repurposing. As reflected in the record, the CBA plan has marshalled support from a broad cross-section of parties in all affected industries, with new proponents adding their support. The CBA has engaged in significant outreach efforts to programmers, broadcasters, cable operators, and other earth station licensees regarding its clearing plan and payment of transition costs. The CBA’s plan remains the fastest — and only — means to ensure expedited 5G roll-out while protecting the distribution of video service to more than 100 million households.

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The CBA noted that some parties seek to delay U.S. 5G deployment to maintain their own competitive advantage. The CBA asserted that the cable industry would like to continue their high-speed broadband monopoly as long as possible. Presently most Americans are served by a single high-speed broadband provider – the local cable company; armed with mid-band spectrum, wireless providers will be able to offer consumers a choice of wireless broadband service potentially faster and cheaper than cable. The CBA also noted that a merged Sprint/T-Mobile combination would be the only national carrier with sufficient mid-band spectrum for 5G deployment — a huge competitive advantage that the merged company would prefer to extend for years by delaying other wireless providers from getting access to mid-band spectrum.

Mr. Pitsch noted that Intel is not a party to the CBA and that Intel's interest is solely to facilitate the repurposing of C-band spectrum in the most efficient and expeditious manner. He explained that repurposing spectrum involves many complicated technical and economic decisions and that armed with the right incentives, the C-band satellite operators are best situated to make those decisions, subject to appropriate FCC oversight. Mr. Pitsch stated that the most important action the U.S. government can take to foster 5G in America is to adopt the market-based plan expeditiously.

Please contact the undersigned with any questions regarding this letter.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Jennifer D. Hindin

Jennifer D. Hindin

*Counsel for the C-Band Alliance*