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April 2, 1998

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BY HAND

Richard M. Smith
Chief
Office of Engineering and Technology
Federal Communications Commission
2000 M Street, N.W., Room 480
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Diversified Communication Engineering, Inc.
Application for Modification of Experimental Authority
Call Sign WA2XMY

Dear Dick:

As you know, Diversified Communication Engineering, Inc. ("DCE") has pending an application for modification of its experimental authority under the above-captioned call sign. The requested modification would permit additional testing of Northpoint Technology's spectrum sharing system in the 12.2-12.7 GHz band in the more urban environment of Austin, Texas to confirm the excellent test results received in its initial trial last fall. DCE and Northpoint have scheduled this test for the week of April 20, 1998, and hereby request that the Commission act on the pending application by that date.

As you are probably aware, on March 6, 1998, Northpoint filed a petition for rulemaking to permit the deployment of this technology by Direct Broadcast Satellite licensees and/or their affiliates in the 12.2-12.7 GHz band. DCE and Northpoint are gratified that the proposal has generated substantial interest and that it was promptly placed on public notice. Comments on the petition are currently due April 20th with reply comments due May 5th. Clearly, the public interest would be well served by enabling DCE and Northpoint to conduct their Austin test and by allowing interested parties to review and comment on the results prior to the closing of the record on the Petition. Moreover, prompt grant of the application, which in turn would facilitate prompt action on the Petition, would speed the ultimate deployment of this promising technology. For these reasons, DCE urges action on its application by April 20, 1998.

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Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions or require additional information.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dick", written in a cursive style.

Richard E. Wiley

cc: The Honorable William E. Kennard
The Honorable Michael K. Powell
The Honorable Susan Ness
The Honorable Harold Furchtgott-Roth
The Honorable Gloria Tristani
Robert M. Pepper
Dale Hatfield
Regina Keeney
Steve B. Sharkey
Renee Licht
David Wye
Paul Marrangoni