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DATE: December 22, 1998

TO: Jim Burtle

FROM: Chris Tygh

PAGES: 2

MESSAGE:

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*Granted
12/16/98*



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December 18, 1998

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C., 20554

Re: Request to Expedite Application for Experimental
Radio Service and STA Request of Wavtrace, Inc.

Dear Ms. Salas:

I am writing to request prompt approval of the October 19, 1998 application for experimental radio service and, to the extent necessary, related request for special temporary authority submitted on behalf of Wavtrace, Inc. ("Wavtrace"). As explained below, granting this request will enable Wavtrace to fulfill its existing contractual obligations and will benefit the public interest by promoting the development of new LMDS services.

Wavtrace needs FCC approval of the above-referenced approach within the next 30 days in order to meet our contractual obligations to develop experimental 28 GHz equipment. Those obligations require us to begin testing with our first beta trial customer, Virginia Tech, in the second quarter of 1999. To meet this deadline, we must begin our own over-the-air testing at 28 GHz within one month using the requested experimental authorization. Over-the-air testing is the only way to identify and solve the complex interference issues associated with LMDS deployments in the very short time available. Resolution of these interference issues in turn will help promote the growth of LMDS service.

Given the total absence of commercially available 28 GHz equipment and LMDS service in today's marketplace, granting this request would serve the Commission's goal of fostering the development of new services and technologies. Virginia Tech (currently the only academic institution to have been granted on LMDS authorization) wants to use the Wavtrace equipment to showcase the capabilities of LMDS to potential service providers and telecommunications equipment manufacturers. This in turn will help grow the LMDS industry and serve the public interest.

Thank you in advance for your assistance in this matter. Any questions regarding this matter may be addressed to the undersigned or to Stan McCoy of Covington & Burling at (202) 662-5629.

Sincerely,


Kent R. Lundgren
Wavtrace, Inc.
(425) 468-2265

cc: Mr. James Burtle