



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

October 26, 2016

The Honorable Gene Green
U.S. House of Representatives
2470 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Green:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Joint Petition for Rulemaking concerning the ATSC 3.0 broadcast transmission standard (ATSC 3.0 Petition).

As you reference in your letter, the Commission's Media Bureau issued a Public Notice on April 26, 2016 seeking comment on the ATSC 3.0 Petition. The comment period closed on June 27, 2016 and Commission staff is reviewing the record and engaging with industry representatives on this topic. Specifically, the Media Bureau and the Office of Engineering and Technology are actively considering the issues that should be raised in a NPRM proposing to authorize the ATSC 3.0 broadcast standard. We seek to support broadcasters' innovation while at the same time ensuring that consumers who are not yet equipped for this change can continue to receive the same level of TV service they have come to expect.

The record reflects the enormous potential of ATSC 3.0. Its advocates state that ATSC 3.0 will allow broadcasters to offer improved television service to consumers. Although the benefits of ATSC 3.0 may be great, the transition to this broadcast transmission standard comes with considerable technical and logistical challenges, costs, and some risks to the many stakeholders involved, including consumers. A forthcoming NPRM will carefully study the balance between advancing broadcast technology that brings new features and opportunities to broadcasters and their viewers and ensuring the continuity and quality of broadcast service to all Americans.

I appreciate your interest in this matter. Your views are very important and will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tom Wheeler".

Tom Wheeler