

<Name> Esq MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

23rd February 2007

Dear Mr/Mrs <Name>

I am writing as your constituent to draw your attention to the unintended consequences of the Digital Dividend Review (DDR). As I am sure you are aware under current Government plans, Ofcom intends to auction radio spectrum to the highest bidder. This comes as a result of the transition from analogue to digital TV broadcasting. These changes pose a grave threat to the British Entertainment Industry as a whole, but especially to the **Programme Making and Special Events (PMSE), Live Broadcasting, Theatre and Film** sector.

I am a member of the Broadcasting Entertainment Cinematograph & Theatre Union BECTU and as such I am greatly alarmed at the effects of current spectrum proposals on all live events in the UK. Without our current analogue equipment, which is totally reliant on the use of this spectrum, all modern live events are imperilled. International artists will not wish to perform in the UK, Film makers from the U S A will not wish to **come** to the UK because they will face extremely limited production standards **leading to probable job losses for our Members**. The UK will no longer be seen as a world innovator in such fields as set design and stage production.

Our sector relies on the unused spectrum that interleaves between current analogue TV broadcasts, to enable the use of radio microphones, in ear devices and other short-range wireless devices. These systems are integral to the production of content for recorded and live entertainment. If the proposed changes to access rights to radio frequency spectrum go ahead, virtually all organisations that rely on radio spectrum for the production of content will be adversely affected.

I would be most grateful if as my local MP you would show your support for my industry by signing **EDM No.531 'Impact of Digital Dividend On British Entertainment Industry'**. To this end I have enclosed a copy of the EDM for you to sign.

This sector is disparate and diverse and would struggle to compete with the large organisations, such as mobile phone contractors, that would undoubtedly bid for this valuable spectrum. Ofcom has opened the consultation period on the Digital Dividend which lasts until March 20th. However Ofcom is not providing those that currently use this spectrum with enough specific information about its likely plans for vacated spectrum. This is fundamentally hampering our ability to engage with the consultation process.

As I am sure you are aware our concerns are generating considerable media interest, but we are very keen to attract more support from Parliamentarians. Your support would be greatly appreciated and would help to avert the potentially devastating consequences of the DDR on our valuable UK industry.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

<Name>