Fw: NEWS CORP/BSKYB MERGER McLeod, Jonathan (LDN-WSW)

to:

'guy.black@telegraph.co.uk', 'michael.prescott@bt.com', 'nick.fullagar@trinitymirror.com', 'chris.j.wade@guardian.co.uk', Phelan, Joe (LDN-WSW), Miller, Pavel (LDN-WSW), Pugh, Simon (LDN-WSW)

11/01/2011 14:34

Cc:

"'Jordan.Ellison@SlaughterandMay.com'", "'Bertrand.LOUVEAUX@SlaughterandMay.com'" Show Details

This is a 'no' but some progress...

JM

From: BRAND STUART [mailto:Stuart.Brand@Culture.gsi.gov.uk]

Sent: Tuesday, January 11, 2011 06:23 AM

To: McLeod, Jonathan (LDN-WSW)

Subject: RE: NEWS CORP/BSKYB MERGER

Morning (sorry, afternoon)!

I have seen the reports. The Secretary of State will publish Ofcom's report with commercially sensitive information redacted in due course and no later than at the time of his decision on a referral. He is committed to reaching a decision in a fair and even-handed way but, as you will appreciate, it is not possible to for him or us to comment on every stage of the process.

Stuart

From: McLeod, Jonathan (LDN-WSW) [mailto:JMcleod@webershandwick.com]

Sent: 11 January 2011 08:17

To: BRAND STUART

Subject: Re: NEWS CORP/BSKYB MERGER

Morning Stuart

It is reported in the FT and the Guardian that News Corporation have admitted to having a copy of the Ofcom report, and that they are discussing it with the Department.

I have been asked by my clients to request a copy of the same report on the same terms.

Our clients solicitors, Slaughter and May, can take service of the document.

Regards

Jon

From: BRAND STUART [mailto:Stuart.Brand@Culture.gsi.gov.uk]

Sent: Monday, January 10, 2011 11:07 AM

To: McLeod, Jonathan (LDN-WSW)

Subject: RE: NEWS CORP/BSKYB MERGER

Jon,

Thanks for this offer. We will certainly be in touch with you if further representations from your clients are needed.

Stuart

Stuart Brand Head of Digital TV Team DCMS 2-4 Cockspur Street London SW1Y 5DH

W: 020 7211 6416 M: 07901 820779

From: McLeod, Jonathan (LDN-WSW) [mailto:]Mcleod@webershandwick.com]

Sent: 10 January 2011 14:35

To: BRAND STUART

Subject: Re: NEWS CORP/BSKYB MERGER

Thanks Stuart.

I've seen the following (see below) from the Select Committee today. If News Corp are discussing remedies or similar with DCMS, I am certain that my clients would expect to be invited into the department to ensure that the arguments to the effect that remedies would not be effective are fully presented to provide proper context for any assurances being given by News Corp. I note that our earlier meeting was cancelled. Perhaps you could let me know when we might come in to discuss this.

Regards

) Jon

From: "Culture, Media & Sport Committee" <CMSCOM@parliament.uk>Date: 10 January 2011 12:21:51 GMTTo: "Culture, Media & Sport Committee" <CMSCOM@parliament.uk>Subject: Cancellation of News Corp Committee briefing Wednesday 12 January To all Members of the Committee News Corporation have informed us that they are now unable to brief the Committee on Wednesday because they expect to be fully engaged with the Ofcom Report and with confidential discussions with DCMS. There will, therefore, be no Committee meeting on Wednesday. Thursday???s meeting with a coalition of media groups is still taking place. Keely BlshopCommittee AssistantCulture, Media and Sport CommitteeRoom 170, 7 MillbankLondon, SW1P 3JA020 7219 6188

From: BRAND STUART [mailto:Stuart.Brand@Culture.gsi.gov.uk]

Sent: Thursday, January 06, 2011 09:49 AM

To: McLeod, Jonathan (LDN-WSW)

Subject: NEWS CORP/BSKYB MERGER

Dear Jon.

Good to speak to you. I have spoken to my lawyers and can confirm that the SoS is studying the report at the moment and is not at present seeking representations from parties opposed to the merger, but he is aware of all the representations made to the SoS BIS and to Ofcom

Best wishes,

Stuart

Stuart Brand
Head of Digital TV Team
DCMS
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London SW1Y 5DH

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