

EXHIBIT A

To

**Comments of the National Association
of Black Owned Broadcasters, Inc. and the
Rainbow/PUSH Coalition, Inc., in
MB Docket No. 02-277, MM Docket No. 01-235,
MM Docket No. 01-317, and MM Docket No. 00-244**

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Left to Their Own Devices

Sinclair Broadcasting CEO David Smith (photo) told investors at the UBS Warburg media conference last week



that the big reason he is centralizing a chunk of his stations' news production in one Baltimore facility is cost. But he also said he's sick of the

news judgment of some local news directors.

"Nothing upsets me more than when a local news director puts a headline story of a water-main break in Los Angeles as local news. That's the kind of foolishness you see when local news directors are left to their own devices." He added: "One of the nice things about having a centralized news operation is that we take all the politics out of the local news issues. We're able to focus on content that's ratings-driven as opposed to fluff, or dog-catcher stories, or whatever people tend to want to follow for whatever their politics is."

Afterwards, he softened a bit, saying the real reason for centralizing news is cost. —J.M.H.