



CMS 49438/DC

**Department for Culture,
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London SW1Y 5DH

**Department of
Trade and Industry**

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11 August 2006

SWITCHOVER TO DIGITAL TELEVISION

We are writing to ask for your cooperation with the engineering work on transmission masts that will be carried out in preparation for digital switchover.

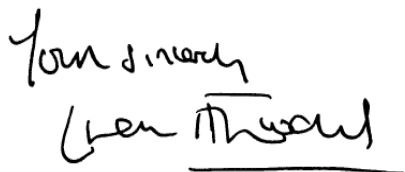
As you will be aware, between 2008 and 2012 the UK's terrestrial television broadcasting will switchover to digital, TV region by TV region. Digital UK, the independent not-for-profit organisation set up to lead switchover, and the transmission companies (Arqiva and National Grid Wireless) are developing digital switchover implementation plans that ensure the switchover programme is completed by the 2012 deadline that has been set by government.

As part of the engineering work that underpins switchover, the transmission companies will need to strengthen transmission masts and replace the current analogue and digital television antennas at all of the main transmitters and a number of the principal relays. This work is likely to cause some temporary disruption to services that you transmit from these masts.

The transmission companies will be aiming to keep any disruption to your services to the minimum necessary while enabling the digital switchover programme to be completed on time. To enable the delivery of digital switchover, we therefore ask that you engage positively when the transmission companies discuss their detailed implementation proposals with you.

If you require any further information on the digital switchover programme or timetable we would suggest that you contact your transmission service provider in the first instance or Jules Wright at Digital UK (020 7462 5420; jules.wright@digitaluk.co.uk; www.digitaluk.co.uk).

> We are copying this letter to Arqiva and National Grid Wireless.

Handwritten signature of Shaun Woodward in black ink.Handwritten signature of Margaret Hodge in black ink.

SHAUN WOODWARD MP
Minister for Broadcasting
Department for Culture, Media and
Sport

RT HON MARGARET HODGE MP
Minister for Industry and the Regions
Department for Trade and Industry