



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

December 4, 2014

The Honorable Amy Klobuchar
Chairwoman
Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition, and Consumer Rights
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairwoman Klobuchar:

Thank you for your letter regarding the proposed acquisition of Time Warner Cable (TWC) by Comcast. I appreciate your interest in the Commission's review of the transaction and hearing your views on the matter. Your letter will be made part of the record.

As you note in your letter, you seek an examination of the impact of the merger on independent programmers in terms of their ability to enter the market, as well as whether a merged Comcast-TWC entity would have the incentive and ability to withhold carriage or discriminate against independent programmers. Finally, you ask that the Commission review whether online distribution is a viable alternative and whether Comcast-TWC would have the ability to block online video.

I can assure you that these issues are front and center in the Commission's proceeding. As I have expressed to you before, we will continue to conduct an open and transparent process as we review the issues presented by the proposed transaction, including the concerns raised in your letter.

I hope this information is helpful.

Sincerely,

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

Tom Wheeler



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December 4, 2014

The Honorable Mike Lee
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition, and Consumer Rights
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Lee:

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As you note in your letter, you seek an examination of the impact of the merger on independent programmers in terms of their ability to enter the market, as well as whether a merged Comcast-TWC entity would have the incentive and ability to withhold carriage or discriminate against independent programmers. Finally, you ask that the Commission review whether online distribution is a viable alternative and whether Comcast-TWC would have the ability to block online video.

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