

From: Donald Schiffler <dschiff1@tampabay.rr.com>
To: <LSENECAL@fcc.gov>
Date: 4/30/00 12:29PM
Subject: Aol-Time Warner

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

00-30
ORIGINAL

As an ex-AOL member and current Time Warner and Road Runner subscriber, this merger has me very concerned in the fact that AOL's total disregard for customers rights and concerns will effect my cable TV and Internet subscriptions.

I quit AOL as my Internet provider because, at the time they offered a take it or loose it type attitude with their customers, I signed up with Compuserve, for years things went great, then AOL bought Compuserve and Compuserve opted the AOL take it or leave it attitude, I then quit Compuserve and signed up with Time Warner's Road Runner, things are good, now I'm about to have my choice dictated to me once again, narrowing my field of choice once again.

AOL has made their software in a way that takes over a persons computer, blocking out the consumers choice as to who they use to access the internet, Compuserve's new software does the same thing, both are owned by AOL, AOL has refused to admit that they did anything wrong in this and that is just the way their software works, again the take it or leave it attitude comes into play, there are now numerous class action lawsuits pending against AOL because of this.

AOL has shown that in order to use ANY of what AOL has to offer you must subscribe to AOL or use their product exclusively, (AOL instant messenger) thus giving the consumer no choice whatsoever but to either subscribe to AOL or go without. Again they are being sued because of their attitude.

Here in St.Petersburg we have only Time Warner that supplies both TV and cable Internet access through Road Runner, the consumer can either have cable TV or cable Internet or both, but with this merger, AOL can require cable subscriber to have AOL as their cable Internet provider in order to get cable TV service. as AOL has shown in the past, the consumer must take AOL in a package deal in order to have any of what is offered. Microsoft has done this with Windows and Internet Explorer which has created a massive lawsuit in regards to violating consumer rights to choose.

Given AOL's record for Internet dominance, the consumer could be forced to have AOL, Netscape, Instant Messenger, and any number of AOL products just to have Cable TV unless strict guidelines were enforced guaranteeing the consumers right to choice.

At this time, I refuse to use any of AOL's offerings because of their total AOL way or NO way attitude, At this time I have a choice, this merger of AOL and Time Warner could change that, my field of choice will be limited even more, in the years to come and choice may become just another word.

While some mergers can be of benefit to consumers, and are good for the economy, a merger of this magnitude and the future of the Internet and electronic media can force the matter of choice out of the equation for

RECEIVED

MAY - 5 2000

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARYNo. of Copies rec'd
List ABCDE

2

a lot of consumers. It would definitely give AOL/Time Warner an unfair advantage as to how things will develop, as with Microsoft, products will be made to the standards set by AOL or not work.

00-30

I believe that this merger will have dire consequences on the consumer market and should be stopped, if not the courts better brush up on Internet law and the future will be spelled LAWSUIT.

Thank You
Donald Schiffler

RECEIVED

MAY - 5 2000

**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

ORIGINAL 10-30

From: "John Kenney" <kenney@BileniaTech.com>
To: <LSENECAL@fcc.gov>
Date: 5/1/00 5:15PM
Subject: AOL TIME WARNER MERGER

Just a comment from an ordinary citizen about the AOL Time Warner merger. I believe that the FCC should prevent this merger from taking place. It's obvious from what AOL Time Warner are attempting to do to helpless cable subscribers in major US markets that allowing this merger to take place would be allowing an even more powerful monopoly to exist than the separate monopolies that AOL and Time Warner already are. Instead of breaking up Microsoft, the government ought to think about breaking up both AOL and Time Warner rather than even contemplating allowing them to merge.

Thank you for allowing me to send you my comments.

John Kenney
BileniaTech, LP
2400 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Phone: (215) 854-0555 x216
Fax: (215) 854-0665
E-Mail: Kenney@BileniaTech.com

RECEIVED

MAY - 5 2000

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

No. of Copies rec'd
List ABCDE

2

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

ORIGINAL

00-30

From: "Robert J Glaser" <rglaser@socal.rr.com>
To: <LSENECAL@fcc.gov>
Date: 5/1/00 10:31PM
Subject: Time Warner & AOL Merger

Dear Sir,

The recent cutoff of ABC on Time Warner shows how interested Time Warner is in public service. The AOL Time-Warner merger should not be allowed. Time Warner is too big already.

Robert J. Glaser

CC: <webmaster@timewarner.com>

RECEIVED

MAY - 5 2000

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

No. of Copies rec'd 2
List ABCDE