



July 14, 2017

**VIA ECFS**

Ms. Marlene Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 Twelfth Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

**Re: Ex Parte Presentation; Restoring Internet Freedom, WC Docket No. 17-108**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On July 12, 2017, Curt Pendleton from Antietam Cable and the undersigned, spoke with FCC Chairman Ajit Pai at a group meeting of local officials and community leaders from the City of Hagerstown and Washington County, MD. This meeting was held at the City Library in Hagerstown, MD. Included also were representatives from local educational institutions such as Hagerstown Community College, Washington County Public Schools and business leaders, including AT&T. We discussed several economic development issues including matters related to the above captioned proceeding.<sup>1</sup> Specifically, we discussed Antietam's efforts to bring gigabit broadband Internet access service to residents of Hagerstown and the surrounding county in an effort to close the digital divide and aid the city with its economic development efforts.

I recounted how the FCC's 2015 Open Internet Order reclassifying our broadband Internet access as a Title II telecommunications service has had a detrimental impact on our Gigabit fiber buildout plans, causing us to pull back on the scope of planned investment and deployment, and delay, for a year, bringing the benefits of Gigabit fiber broadband Internet access services to a larger area of the region we serve.

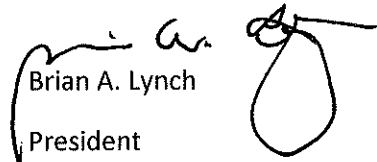
Antietam is extremely pleased that the Chairman has launched a proceeding to revisit this decision and that the FCC is considering restoring the previous information service classification to the service. Restoring the light-handed regulatory approach taken by the agency for many years before the Title II decision will remove the threat of carrier rate regulation and relieve us of the fear of moving forward with our plans to continue a major Gigabit fiber-to-the-home upgrade of our system and offer new services.

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<sup>1</sup> Restoring Internet Freedom, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, WC Docket No. 17-108 (rel. May 23, 2018).

Pursuant to section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, this letter is being filed electronically with the Commission.

Sincerely,

  
Brian A. Lynch  
President  
Antietam Cable Television, Inc.  
240-420-2068