



**INTERNATIONAL
BROTHERHOOD
OF ELECTRICAL
WORKERS®**

900 Seventh Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001
202.833.7000
www.ibew.org

LONNIE R. STEPHENSON
International President

KENNETH W. COOPER
International
Secretary-Treasurer

August 7, 2017

The Honorable Michelle M. Carey
Bureau Chief, Media Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

**Re: In the matter of MB Docket No. 17-179, Applications of Tribune
Media Company and Sinclair Broadcast Group, Inc. for Consent
to Transfer Control of Licenses and Authorizations (FCC File
No. BTCCDT-20170626AGH, et seq.)**

Dear Ms. Carey:

On behalf of the 750,000 active members and retirees of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), and nearly 100,000 members who work in the telecommunications industry, I write in strong opposition to the proposed purchase of Tribune Media by Sinclair Broadcasting. If approved, Sinclair Broadcasting would own 230 stations in 108 markets and would reach more than 70 percent of all households in the United States.

Concentrating this amount of media ownership into one company is inconsistent with existing Federal Communications Commission (FCC) regulations. Granting one company such massive market share significantly reduces competition and consumer choice. Furthermore, this proposed purchase is antithetical to the concept of a free and independent press and will hinder the important role local news stations play in giving the public unbiased information. I strongly urge the FCC to rule that this proposed purchase is not in the public interest and therefore should be rejected.

Sincerely yours,

Lonnie R. Stephenson
International President

LRS:lgd