**Subject:**                    FW: BLOCK MERGER:  Sinclair and Tribune, MB Docket 17-179

**From:** Peyton Collier-Kerr [mailto:peyton.collierkerr@gmail.com]
**Sent:** Monday, August 7, 2017 10:11 PM
**To:** David Roberts <David.Roberts@fcc.gov>
**Subject:** BLOCK MERGER: Sinclair and Tribune, MB Docket 17-179

Mr. Roberts.   The FCC's reinstatement of the UHF discount that has allowed for the Sinclair Broadcast Group to attempt its merger with Tribune Media, Co. is alarming. I do not support this merger, which would allow a single media group to own over 70% of the country's airwaves.

I urge the FCC to block the Sinclair-Tribune merger and reinstate policies that allow for a free press and a diversity of opinions.          DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Pursuant to a merger agreement, Sinclair Broadcast Group, Inc. (Sinclair) and Tribune Media Company (Tribune) have filed applications seeking Commission consent to transfer control of Tribune's full-power broadcast televisions stations, low-power television stations, and TV translator stations to Sinclair. According to the Applicants, Sinclair owns or operates 173 broadcast television stations, consisting of 528 channels, in 81 markets, with affiliations with all major networks, and is the largest local news provider in the country; Tribune owns or operates 42 broadcast television stations in 33 markets, also with affiliations with all major networks. Tribune also owns cable network WGN America, digital multicast network Antenna TV and WGN-Radio. According to the Applicants, Tribune's owns and operates broadcast television stations in the top three markets in the country, seven stations in the top ten markets, and 34 stations in the top 50 markets. The Applicants claim that under the proposed transaction, the combined company would reach 72 percent of U.S. television households and would own and operate the largest number of broadcast television stations of any station group.

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