

November 29, 2018

The Honorable Ajit Pai, Chairman
The Honorable Michael O'Rielly, Commissioner
The Honorable Brendan Carr, Commissioner
The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel, Commissioner

Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
455 12th Street, Southwest
Washington, DC, 20544

Dear Chairman Pai,

I am writing to support the Comments of the Lake Champlain Access Television, Inc. ("LCATV," File ID 1031754013658) and to disapprove of the proposals and tentative conclusions set forth in the FCC's September 25 Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making in *Implementation of Section 621(a)(1) of the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984 as Amended by the Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act of 1992*, MB Docket 05-311.

I am the Board President of Lake Champlain Access Television (LCATV), the Access Management Organization that serves my home town of Colchester and seven other surrounding communities in northern Vermont. These are all rural towns with a rich history of dairy farming and general agriculture. Citizens have come to depend on LCATV to stay connected to local government through the broadcast of Selectboard and School Board meetings when weather and schedules would not permit them to attend live. LCATV is a platform that presents unfiltered, unbiased and unaltered coverage of meetings and events as well as providing a structure and opportunity for residents of our serving towns to express their views and opinions on events that affect their lives. We view LCATV as a last bastion of first amendment privilege. The proposed changes in Docket 05-311 make our station financially unworkable. These changes will codify the efforts of the cable industry to renege on commitments made to communities over the decades. Now that the industry is so powerful and exerts such influence in Washington, it no longer needs the efforts of those community partners, especially in the rural areas of the country. I am saddened and discouraged that the FCC would even consider such change as in Docket 05-311 that all but guarantees the demise of rural public access nationwide.

The intent of the PEG provisions of the 1984 Cable Act were to enhance local voices, serve local community needs and interests, and strengthen our local democracy. By defining "franchise fee" in an overly broad fashion to include "in-kind" support, the FCC's proposals will shift the fair balance between cable franchising authorities and cable operators and will force communities to

choose between franchise fees and PEG channels – something that was never the intent of the Act.

I appreciate your consideration and hope you will protect PEG Access in our community and others by choosing not to adopt many of the proposals in the Further Notice.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. N. Pecor", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Richard Pecor

President

LCATV Board Of Directors

2868 Middle Road

Colchester, Vt. 05446