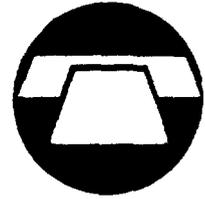


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DILLER TELEPHONE CO.

FCC MAIL ROOM

William P. Sandman, Manager

P.O. Box 218

Diller, Nebraska 68342

Telephone (402) 793-5330

February 11, 1993

The Honorable Andrew Barrett:
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M. St. N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

92265/

Dear Mr. Barrett:

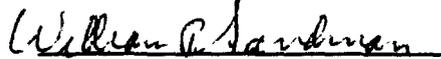
I am writing you to express my concern about the Notice of Proposed Rule Making that was released on December 24, specifically as it pertains to the Section 19 programming access provisions of the recently passed cable bill.

I am the General Manager of Diller Telephone Company a small rural utility that serves approximately 900 consumers to which we provide telephone and satellite dish service in Southeast Nebraska and Northern Kansas. In our part of Nebraska and Kansas there are many consumers for whom cable service is unavailable due to their remoteness. The only way these consumers can receive television is by using a home satellite dish. Until now, these home satellite dish owners have been paying discriminatorily high rates for much of the programming they receive over their dish. The cost for this programming to home satellite dish distributors is on the average much higher than what cable operators pay for it.

My utility, along with hundreds of utilities like it around the country, worked long and hard to secure the inclusion of the cable bill's Section 19 programming access provisions in order to protect our consumers from the cable industry's price gouging. When the bill passed, we were understandably pleased and hopeful that the discrimination would stop.

This is why we are concerned by the tone of your NPRM on the subject. By writing this letter, I hope to impress upon you the reality of this price discrimination. For our customers, it really is an important issue, and it is completely unnecessary; it costs cable owned programmers and satellite carriers no more to serve the rural home dish market than the urban cable market. In your NPRM, you indicated that harm against the dish market would have to be established before the FCC could issue regulations to correct it. I assure you that this harm not only exists, but that it's also an ongoing problem which robs hundreds of dollars per year from each of my satellite TV watching customers.

Sincerely,
Diller Telephone Company


William P. Sandman, Mgr.

cc: Office Of the Secretary, FCC