



P O Box 645 • 607 Chief • Benkelman, NE 69021

December 8, 2017

FCC

Washington, DC

Re: Proceeding 17-179

Dear Sirs,

With respect to the proposed Sinclair and Tribune Media merger proceedings we would offer that the merger would create an intolerable atmosphere in programming for small cable television systems and our customers.

The concerns herein are the extraordinary demands currently being exacted by Sinclair in the current retransmission consent cycle. Negotiations therein are one sided and skewed heavily in favor of Sinclair. Unjust terms and conditions are being demanded and costs are doubling and will be increasing on the order of 10-11 % annually with no perceptible increase in programming and content.

Sinclair presently is erratic in there negotiations with the National Cable Television Cooperative. The offers are extended and retracted almost at will. Group negotiations are not being allowed by Sinclair in the sense that they can intimidate the smaller cable system operators such as ourselves.

The sense of divide and conquer on Sinclair's behalf is readily apparent in their negotiations.

The Sinclair and Tribune Media merger will skyrocket cable television rates for the smaller companies, wherein they are being visibly denied the opportunity to bring their concerns to the bargaining table.

Bully, is the conjecture which would best describe Sinclair and their tactics herein.

Our sense is that this merger will be financially burdensome to the customers who would be at all able to afford cable after these onerous terms are enacted and rates will go out of site.

Our thanks to the FCC for the venue to share our concerns regarding this unjust merger.

Aunt Emma won't be able to afford cable.

With best regards,

  
Randall J. Raile, General Manager

RJR/wpp