I am wholeheartedly opposed to any and all efforts to reduce funding for our Public Access TV station, Hardwick Community TV, HCTV/Channel 16, in Hardwick, VT. Any reduction of public interest requirements from current franchise fees contradicts the intent of the Cable Act of 1984. Any reduction in funding to HCTV/Channel 16 will have a devastating negative impact on our town of Hardwick, VT.

The benefit of HCTV to the greater Hardwick community is vast. Single parents, elderly, homebound and other people who are unable to leave the house in the evening rely on HCTV to view broadcasts of Hardwick and Woodbury Town Meetings and Selectboard Meetings at home. HCTV creates important community ties and avenues of communication by broadcasting a variety of locally produced programming. HCTV keeps our community up to date on Hazen Union Highschool sports, local arts and agriculture, non-profit group activities.

FNPRM 05-311 will make effective operation of HCTV impossible. We urge the FCC not to adopt rulemaking FNPRM 05-311.

Sincerely,

Meredith E. Holch