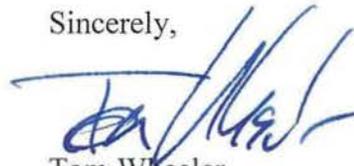


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Please be assured the Commission will continue to keep rural Americans' needs in mind as it moves ahead with its work. I appreciate hearing directly from you on the issues that face your constituents and hope to continue a dialogue with you.

Sincerely,



Tom Wheeler



OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

February 11, 2015

The Honorable Jeff Fortenberry  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1514 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Fortenberry:

Thank you for your letter expressing support for access to video programming, including programming specific to rural communities. I appreciate hearing your views.

This issue has been raised by commenters in the context of the pending transactions between Comcast and Time Warner Cable, and AT&T and DirecTV. With regard to your specific concern about rural-focused programming, I note that RFD-TV, a Nebraska-based digital cable and satellite television channel, along with many of its viewers, have filed comments in both of the pending proceedings. Please be assured that the views of RFD-TV and its viewers will be given careful consideration as the staff reviews the record in the proceedings.

You also indicate in your letter that the video marketplace is evolving and shifting with more content provided through broadband connections. Like you, I recognize that having access to broadband is a challenge for many rural Americans. In our recent 2015 Broadband Progress Report, adopted on January 29, 2015, the Commission found that broadband deployment is not keeping pace. The Commission indicated that over half of rural Americans lack access to the updated broadband benchmark speeds of 25 megabits per second (Mbps) for downloads and 3 Mbps for uploads, whereas only eight percent of urban Americans lack access to the same benchmark speeds. Based on the number of unserved Americans and for other reasons, the Commission concluded that broadband is not being deployed in a reasonable and timely fashion. The Commission recognized that while we have made progress, more work needs to be done.

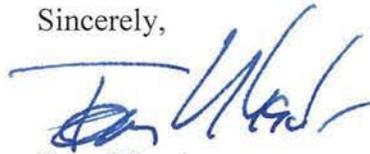
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Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

February 11, 2015

The Honorable Paul Gosar  
U.S. House of Representatives  
504 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Gosar:

Thank you for your letter expressing support for access to video programming, including programming specific to rural communities. I appreciate hearing your views.

This issue has been raised by commenters in the context of the pending transactions between Comcast and Time Warner Cable, and AT&T and DirecTV. With regard to your specific concern about rural-focused programming, I note that RFD-TV, a Nebraska-based digital cable and satellite television channel, along with many of its viewers, have filed comments in both of the pending proceedings. Please be assured that the views of RFD-TV and its viewers will be given careful consideration as the staff reviews the record in the proceedings.

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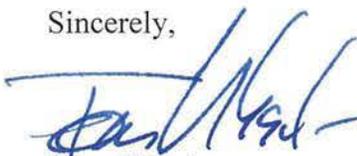
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Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

February 11, 2015

The Honorable Tim Huelskamp  
U.S. House of Representatives  
129 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Huelskamp:

Thank you for your letter expressing support for access to video programming, including programming specific to rural communities. I appreciate hearing your views.

This issue has been raised by commenters in the context of the pending transactions between Comcast and Time Warner Cable, and AT&T and DirecTV. With regard to your specific concern about rural-focused programming, I note that RFD-TV, a Nebraska-based digital cable and satellite television channel, along with many of its viewers, have filed comments in both of the pending proceedings. Please be assured that the views of RFD-TV and its viewers will be given careful consideration as the staff reviews the record in the proceedings.

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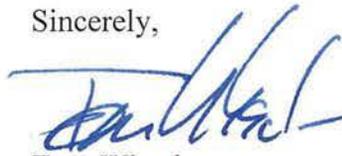
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Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

February 11, 2015

The Honorable Dave Loebsack  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1527 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Loebsack:

Thank you for your letter expressing support for access to video programming, including programming specific to rural communities. I appreciate hearing your views.

This issue has been raised by commenters in the context of the pending transactions between Comcast and Time Warner Cable, and AT&T and DirecTV. With regard to your specific concern about rural-focused programming, I note that RFD-TV, a Nebraska-based digital cable and satellite television channel, along with many of its viewers, have filed comments in both of the pending proceedings. Please be assured that the views of RFD-TV and its viewers will be given careful consideration as the staff reviews the record in the proceedings.

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Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

February 11, 2015

The Honorable Cynthia M. Lummis  
U.S. House of Representatives  
113 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Lummis:

Thank you for your letter expressing support for access to video programming, including programming specific to rural communities. I appreciate hearing your views.

This issue has been raised by commenters in the context of the pending transactions between Comcast and Time Warner Cable, and AT&T and DirecTV. With regard to your specific concern about rural-focused programming, I note that RFD-TV, a Nebraska-based digital cable and satellite television channel, along with many of its viewers, have filed comments in both of the pending proceedings. Please be assured that the views of RFD-TV and its viewers will be given careful consideration as the staff reviews the record in the proceedings.

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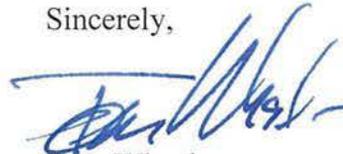
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Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

February 11, 2015

The Honorable Rick Nolan  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2447 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Nolan:

Thank you for your letter expressing support for access to video programming, including programming specific to rural communities. I appreciate hearing your views.

This issue has been raised by commenters in the context of the pending transactions between Comcast and Time Warner Cable, and AT&T and DirecTV. With regard to your specific concern about rural-focused programming, I note that RFD-TV, a Nebraska-based digital cable and satellite television channel, along with many of its viewers, have filed comments in both of the pending proceedings. Please be assured that the views of RFD-TV and its viewers will be given careful consideration as the staff reviews the record in the proceedings.

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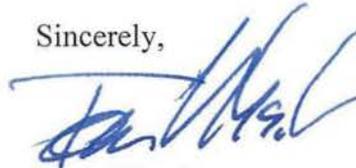
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Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

February 11, 2015

The Honorable Collin C. Peterson  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2109 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Peterson:

Thank you for your letter expressing support for access to video programming, including programming specific to rural communities. I appreciate hearing your views.

This issue has been raised by commenters in the context of the pending transactions between Comcast and Time Warner Cable, and AT&T and DirecTV. With regard to your specific concern about rural-focused programming, I note that RFD-TV, a Nebraska-based digital cable and satellite television channel, along with many of its viewers, have filed comments in both of the pending proceedings. Please be assured that the views of RFD-TV and its viewers will be given careful consideration as the staff reviews the record in the proceedings.

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