

UC OREGON TV

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FILED ELECTRONICALLY

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Charter/TWC/BrightHouse Transaction (MB 15-149)

Dear Ms. Dortch:

I submit this comment to the record of the report and request for comments to be posted.

As a former Tennessean and lobbyist at the Tennessee General Assembly, I respect Rep. Curry Todd as a person, lawmaker, and great Tennessean. However, the support of this transaction by members of “any” legislature calls into question the desire, the genuineness and authenticity of such a grandiose support.

One only needs to check the long list of contributors to any elected official’s campaign reports and find a laundry list of corporations (cable TV conglomerates) that made generous contributions to campaigns. The real question is “how” effective has Charter, Time Warner, Comcast or any other company been to any one community.

Loose lips and in-actions are abound when it comes to upgrading a community. As a former cable TV lobbyist and government affairs director (Continental Cablevision, TCI, MediaOne and AT&T), I know first-hand the tactics employed to get a franchise transfer through an LFA, getting approvals from federal regulators. It is the same old story, “we will do this and that” and once the merger, transfer goes through, it is a daunting “wait and see” game by cable TV operators while customer service plummets.

Rural America stands out in the cold, while other areas reap the benefits of upgrades. Lastly, we all truly know that consolidation is not good for American consumers. We’ve seen job loss due to duplicate positions and experienced the sad truth about the ills that surface from consolidation (i.e.) banks, trade, airlines, and cable TV is no exception.

Sincerely,

/EDDIE V. GARCIA

Eddie V Garcia

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LAPA

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