



## Iron County Development Zone Council

100 Cary Road • Hurley, WI 54534

Phone (715) 561-2922 • Fax (715) 561-3103

[www.ironcountywi.com](http://www.ironcountywi.com)

Business Development: [kelly@ironcountywi.com](mailto:kelly@ironcountywi.com)

Tourism Development: [jenni@ironcountywi.com](mailto:jenni@ironcountywi.com)

October 2, 2015

RE: MB Docket No. 15-149

Tom Wheeler  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Wheeler,

The Iron County Wisconsin Development Zone Council has given their support to the proposed merger of Charter Communications, Time Warner Cable and Bright House Networks. The resulting New Charter would benefit our area by expanding the eligibility of low-income consumers. Iron County's average income is 34 percent lower than the statewide average, which could qualify many of our resident's access to broadband coverage. The proposed New Charter is also proposing to expand broadband coverage into rural and underserved areas, which may help areas like ours.

The Iron County Development Zone Council is made up of representatives of all the towns, cities and chambers of commerce in the county. Its purpose is to promote economic development in our rural area and broadband coverage has been one of our major projects in the last two years. Our surveys of property owners have indicated a good number would consider a home based business with adequate coverage and even more would telecommute from our area. Iron County is a small rural county of 5900 residents with an economy of mainly recreation and wood products.

Access to high-speed Internet is critical for our economic development efforts. New Charter's proposal could help those efforts and we ask the FCC to grant the approval for this merger.

Sincerely,

Kelly Klein  
Coordinator  
Iron County Development Zone Council

---

*"Improving Iron County's economy while preserving our quality of life"*