

February 2, 2016

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

**Re:** Final Report of the Downloadable Security Technology Advisory Committee, **MB Docket No. 15-64**; Applications of Charter Communications, Inc. Time Warner Cable Inc., and Advance/Newhouse Partnership for Consent to Transfer Control of Licenses and Authorizations, **MB Docket No. 15-149**; Lifeline and Link Up Reform and Modernization, **WC Docket No. 11-42**; Telecommunications Carriers Eligible for Universal Service Support, **WC Docket No. 09-197**; Connect America Fund, **WC Docket No. 10-90**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On January 29, 2016, Gene Kimmelman, Harold Feld, Phillip Berenbroick, and John Bergmayer of Public Knowledge (collectively, “Public Knowledge”) met with Commissioner Rosenworcel and Johanna Thomas, Legal Advisor to Commissioner Rosenworcel, to review issues facing the Federal Communications Commission (“Commission”) in 2016. In particular, Public Knowledge noted that a number of proceedings and transactions provide the Commission with an opportunity to promote the public interest in related ways.

### **Transactions**

Public Knowledge noted that, when considering how the Commission can promote the public interest when reviewing transactions such as the proposed Charter/Time Warner Cable/Bright House merger, it should consider how public interest conditions could help advance the Commission's other priorities, such as set-top box reform or affordable broadband, in transaction-specific ways.

### **Affordable Broadband**

Public Knowledge urged the Commission to move quickly to conclude its Lifeline modernization proceeding. Public Knowledge noted the importance of facilitating participation in a modernized Lifeline program by as many broadband Internet access providers as possible. Providing Lifeline subscribers with choice and competition will improve the quality of services available to consumers, drive down prices, and protect the integrity of the Universal Service Fund.

## **Set-Top Box**

Public Knowledge reiterated its support for the Commission's announced rulemaking on set-top box reform, which will promote innovation and access to diverse content, while saving consumers billions.

In accordance with Section 1.1206(b) of the Commission's rules, this letter is being filed with your office. If you have any further questions, please contact me at (202) 861-0020.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ John Bergmayer

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Cc: Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel  
Johanna Thomas