

Received & Inspected

April 10, 2016

APR 18 2016

Federal Communications Commission

FCC Mailroom

445- 12th Street, SW

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Washington, DC 20554

RE: MB Docket 15-149 Charter- Time Warner Cable- Bright House Networks

I am a current Raleigh, North Carolina "lite internet" Time Warner Cable customer (no TV or phone in this). My bill is \$50.67/month including a \$10 modem lease (exhibit 1). Service began in 8-2007 at \$19.95 /month at an introductory discount and went up to \$24.95, \$27.95, \$30.95, \$35.17, \$41.38, \$44.38, \$46.53 and now \$50.67 with no change in the equipment or apparent service. The internet jack was already in my house and was attached by the Time Warner Service technician. I will attempt to lower the bill \$10/month by replacing the leased modem with one from their approved list bought from Best Buy.

I USE THIS SERVICE TO READ NEWSPAPERS ON-LINE SUCH AS THE NEW YORK TIMES WHICH I HAVE TO PAY ADDITIONALLY FOR CONTENT.

MY CONCERN IS THE COST AND THE POSSIBLE INCREASE IN COST CAUSED BY THIS MERGER AND THE ADVERSE AFFECT IT HAS ON THE INFORMATION THAT IS ESSENTIAL TO HAVING ANY SEMBLANCE OF A DEMOCRACY.

I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO POINT OUT THAT SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS ARE GENERALLY OFFERED ON-LINE ONLY (e.g. Environmental Science & Technology and Analytical Chemistry).

Who would be paying for this merger? See New York Times story, "Cashing In on a Charter-Time Cable Merger" by David Gelles (Exhibit 2) says that " through a mix of golden parachutes, advisory fees and investment returns, a handful of cable executives, traders and bankers stand to reap enormous profits" and that Robert D. Marcus, Time Warner executive can expect " about \$102 million."

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445- 12th Street, SW

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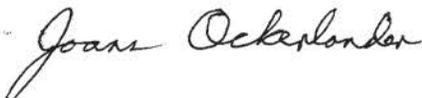
RE: MB Docket 15-149 Charter- Time Warner Cable- Bright House Networks

I understand that the Federal Communications Commission is considering a less than \$10/month subsidy for internet use to be combined with current "life line phone" subsidy for people that are low income enough to qualify for SNAP. Anyone at that income level may still be too poor to have a computer and while a phone can give (e.g. some New York Times, available on a phone so I have been told). This is not adequate for reading lengthy news articles, applying for jobs on-line or printing resumes.

Personally, I am not high income having Social Security only at age 70.

Sincerely,

Joann Ockerlander



9939 Treymore Drive

Raleigh, North Carolina 27617-5203

Exhibit 1 Current Time Warner internet bill - copy

Exhibit 2 New York Times article- "Cashing In on a Charter-Time Warner Cable Merger"
David Geles, May 30, 2015.

Joann Ockerlander
Amount due on Apr 1, 2016: \$50.67
Account number: 202-325077903-001
Customer code: 5882
Statement date: March 11, 2016

copy



<hr/>		
	Previous balance	
02/13	Previous Balance	50.67
	Total previous balance	\$50.67
<hr/>		
	Payments	
02/22	Payments received	-50.67
	Total payments	-\$50.67
<hr/>		
	Monthly services	
03/20-04/19	Lite Internet	39.99
03/20-04/19	Internet Modern Lease	10.00
	Total monthly services	\$49.99
<hr/>		
	Taxes, fees & surcharges	
	State and Local Sales Tax	0.68
	Total taxes, fees & surcharges	\$0.68
<hr/>		
	Total due on April 1, 2016	\$50.67

continued from previous column

Over the phone

Call us anytime at 1-877-566-4892 and simply say "pay my bill" to pay your bill for free. Or you can speak to someone live with any questions about your bill.

Reach us at your convenience

In person

2505 Atlantic Avenue Suite 101
Raleigh, NC 27604
Monday - Friday: 8 am - 6 pm
Saturday: 9 am - 5 pm

On twc.com

Visit twc.com/account to pay your bill online, view FAQs/self-help options and chat with a live agent. Just have your customer code above on hand.

Through your mobile device

With our free My TWC® app.

continued on next column



copy

Customer service
Call us anytime 1-877-566-4892
Visit us at twc.com

Account number
202-325077903-001
Customer code 5882

Due date	Service period	Amount due
Apr 1, 2016	03/20 - 04/19	\$50.67

Service address
Joann Ockerlander
9939 Treymore Dr
Raleigh, NC 27617-5203

Previous balance & payments	
Previous balance	50.67
Payments received as of March 11, 2016	-50.67

Current month	
Monthly services	49.99
Taxes, fees & surcharges	0.68

Total due on April 1, 2016	\$50.67
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Access over 450,000 free TWC WiFi® hotspots nationwide. Use our WiFi Finder app wherever you are.

Thank you for choosing Time Warner Cable and for allowing us to provide you with the best entertainment and communication services.

A black rectangular logo with white text. The text reads "ME AND EARL" on the top line, "AND THE DYING" on the second line, and "GIRL" on the third line.

The New York Times | <http://nyti.ms/1d64DmT>

MEDIA

Cashing In on a Charter-Time Warner Cable Merger

By **DAVID GELLES** MAY 30, 2015

Whatever cable customers and regulators may think of Charter Communications' plans to acquire Time Warner Cable for \$56 billion, one small group of men has reason to celebrate.

Through a mix of golden parachutes, advisory fees and investment returns, a handful of cable executives, traders and bankers stand to reap enormous profits when and if the transaction closes.

Time Warner Cable

Robert D. Marcus, the chief executive of Time Warner Cable, is in line for a corporate exit package that is likely to exceed \$100 million. Because he could well be terminated without cause after the deal closes — another way to say he would be leaving the company after selling it to a competitor — Mr. Marcus would be entitled to the salary, bonus and stock that he would otherwise have received over the coming years.

In that event, according to a securities filing, Mr. Marcus would receive roughly \$4.5 million in salary, \$23 million in bonuses and stock worth \$74 million, for a grand total of about \$102 million.

The sum is particularly notable when Mr. Marcus's brief tenure is taken into account: He has been chief executive for less than a year and a half. Shortly after he became C.E.O., the company faced competing bids from Charter and Comcast. He ultimately struck a deal with Comcast last year that also would have given him a

billowing golden parachute worth \$80 million, but that agreement fell apart last month.

Charter came back quickly with an offer that valued Time Warner Cable at a more than 30 percent premium to its year-ago value, and the new deal was made. If the merger actually occurs, Mr. Marcus will cede the chief executive role to Charter's boss, Thomas M. Rutledge, and is expected to leave the company.

Other Time Warner Cable executives are also in line for big paydays should they leave after a merger. Dinesh C. Jain, the chief operating officer, and Arthur T. Minson Jr., the chief financial officer, would receive golden parachutes worth about \$32 million each. Marc Lawrence-Apfelbaum, the general counsel, would get \$22 million. And Peter C. Stern, the chief product, people and strategy officer, could expect \$18 million.

Time Warner Cable declined to comment.

In theory, golden parachutes are good for shareholders as well as executives, because they encourage C.E.O.s to strike deals instead of resisting to preserve their well-paid jobs.

"It does provide appropriate incentives for the executives," said David F. Larcker, a professor at the Stanford Graduate School of Business. "This helps them presumably do the right thing for shareholders."

And indeed, by overseeing the sale of Time Warner Cable for a blockbuster price, Mr. Marcus would be enriching not just himself and his fellow executives, but all shareholders.

Charter

A merger would benefit Mr. Rutledge of Charter, too. If he runs the combined company, he is likely to receive a raise.

Last year, Mr. Rutledge made \$16 million in total compensation, a handsome sum, but less than many media executives have been earning recently. Brian L. Roberts, chief executive of Comcast, made \$26.5 million last year, for example, and the compensation of James L. Dolan, Cablevision's chief executive, exceeded \$23.5 million. Television and movie studio executives received even more.

Yet as the head of an enlarged Charter, a company backed by the billionaire media mogul John C. Malone, Mr. Rutledge could join the ranks of the best-compensated managers on the planet. Mr. Malone's chief executives occupied three of the top six spots on the Equilar 200 Highest-Paid C.E.O. Rankings, conducted for

The New York Times. David M. Zaslav, the head of Discovery Communications, received \$156 million in compensation last year. Michael T. Fries, chief executive of Liberty Global, earned \$112 million. Gregory B. Maffei, chief executive of Liberty Media, got \$74 million. All those sums include some long-term stock incentives.

Should Mr. Rutledge secure a long-term compensation package upon taking over an expanded Charter, his pay next year could rival that of Mr. Malone's other top lieutenants. And if Mr. Rutledge is ousted after a deal is made, his golden parachute entitles him to about \$111 million.

Bankers

Then there are the investment banks that advised both companies. Together, the banks will share an estimated \$100 million to \$150 million, according to Thomson Reuters and Freeman Consulting Services.

Roughly 60 percent of that pool will go to the banks that advised Time Warner Cable. Morgan Stanley, the lead adviser, will receive a larger slice, with Citigroup and two independent investment banks — Centerview Partners and Allen & Company — splitting the rest.

More banks are advising Charter, but not all will profit from the deal. Goldman Sachs and LionTree Advisors will split \$30 million to \$50 million. LionTree, a boutique bank that specializes in media deals and is the preferred banker for Mr. Malone's companies, is run by Aryeh B. Bourkoff, the former head of Americas investment banking at UBS. Because LionTree has fewer than 100 employees, the deal — along with LionTree's work on Charter's related acquisition of Bright House Networks — will be a transformative payday for Mr. Bourkoff's firm. Mr. Bourkoff declined to comment.

The other banks listed as advisers to Charter — including Guggenheim Partners, Bank of America Merrill Lynch and Credit Suisse — may receive little more than credit for the deal and a role in the financing.

Investors

While all the investors in Time Warner Cable can profit from Charter's generous offer, one hedge fund stands apart. Paulson & Company, run by the billionaire John Paulson, owned 8.7 million shares of Time Warner Cable stock, according to a March 31 public filing.

While it is not known exactly what Mr. Paulson paid for that stake, a filing in September 2013 showed that he had already bought about half of it when the stock

was trading below \$140 a share. The implied price of Charter's offer is \$195.71 a share. That would mean a profit of at least \$250 million. Paulson & Company declined to comment.

All told, excluding Mr. Paulson, the cable executives and advisers for the transaction stand to earn more than \$300 million from the deal. If it collapses, the cable executives and advisers will receive nothing for their troubles. If it goes through, though, it's a ton of money for a deal that came together in a matter of weeks.

"You have to wonder about the size of these packages," Mr. Larcker said. "It does add up."

A version of this article appears in print on May 31, 2015, on page BU3 of the New York edition with the headline: Cashing in on a Charter-Time Warner Cable Merger.

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Officials

Official



Name: Wheeler, Tom
Current Position: Chair

The revolving door between big business and government is spinning again. Despite his promise during the 2008 campaign that lobbyists would take a back seat in his administration, President Barack Obama recently nominated a long-time telecommunications lobbyist—who has also donated and raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for his campaigns—to serve as the next chair of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), the independent federal agency that plays the principle role in regulating the telecom industry. If confirmed by Senate as expected, Tom Wheeler would succeed Julius Genachowski, also a big Obama donor and bundler, who has been FCC Chair since 2009.

Born circa 1946, Wheeler earned a B.S. at the Ohio State University in 1968. Getting into telecom during the formative years of cable TV and wireless communications, Wheeler is, as Obama observed, “the only member of both the cable television and the wireless industry hall of fame.”

Starting his career at the Grocery Manufacturers Association, Wheeler joined the National Cable Television Association (NCTA) in 1976, and was its president (and hence chief lobbyist) from 1979 to 1984. After working as CEO of several technology start-ups, he became the CEO and president of the Cellular Telecommunications & Internet Association (CTIA), from June 1992 to November 2003. Since September 2004, Wheeler has been an executive at the Washington, D.C.-based firm Core Capital Partners, which manages about \$350 million in assets.

Wheeler became a political supporter of Barack Obama at the beginning of his 2008 presidential run, serving on his exploratory committee and National Finance Committee. In addition to personally donating up to the legal limit, Wheeler also raised money from others—called bundling—for Obama, to the tune of more than \$700,000, and even temporarily relocated to Iowa to campaign for Obama. Wheeler also campaigned in Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Indiana. After the election, Obama chose Wheeler to lead the transition team’s review of the science, technology, space, and arts agencies. At the time, Wheeler stated publicly that he did

not want an administration job.

Appointed by Presidents Bill Clinton and George W. Bush, Wheeler served as a trustee of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts for 12 years. He is the former chairman of the Foundation for the National Archives, and board member of the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS). He serves and has served on the boards of numerous corporations, especially in the telecom field.

Wheeler wrote *Take Command: Leadership Lessons of the Civil War* (Doubleday, 2000) and *Mr. Lincoln's T-Mails: The Untold Story of How Abraham Lincoln Used the Telegraph to Win the Civil War* (HarperCollins, 2006).

Although telecom companies and their lobbies—including both organizations formerly headed by Wheeler—issued statements praising the nominee, some in the public interest community have serious doubts as to his ability to rise above his corporate background. “The Federal Communications Commission needs a strong leader—someone who will use this powerful position to stand up to industry giants and protect the public interest,” said Free Press president Craig Aaron. “On paper, Tom Wheeler does not appear to be that person, having headed not one but two major trade associations. But he now has the opportunity to prove his critics wrong, clean up the mess left by his predecessor, be the public servant we so badly need at the FCC.”

Tom Wheeler is married to Carol Wheeler.

To Learn More:

[Tom Wheeler, Former Lobbyist and Obama Fundraiser, Tapped to Lead FCC \(by Sam Gustin, Time\)](#)

[Telecom Investor Named to Be F.C.C. Chairman \(by Edward Wyatt, New York Times\)](#)

[Meet Tom Wheeler, the man who could control your digital life \(by Chris Ziegler, The Verge\)](#)

[Mobile Musings \(Wheeler's blog\)](#)

[New Entrant Ethics Forms for Tom Wheeler \(U.S. Office of Government Ethics\)](#)



Federal Communications Commission (FCC)

