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**From:** Chris McKnight  
**To:** Commissioner Adelstein  
**Date:** Wed, May 21, 2003 1:58 PM  
**Subject:** Comments to the Commissioner

Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary

Chris McKnight (cmcknightpdx@yahoo.com) writes:

A quick note to say I saw you on CSPAN last night making a speech to a media organization regarding media concentration and wanted to thank you for making the effort to represent the common sense concerns of the vast majority of the American public.

I am amazed with the level of opposition from consumers, professionals, and companies in the industry that this action is still being force fed through the system, and feel powerless to do anything except write a note such as this.

You are exactly right about the UHF discount clause. It is ironic that the Chairman cites technological change as the basis for raising the allowed concentration level, but ignores the irrelevance of the UHF distinction, which allows the Commission to inaccurately represent the allowed concentration level. The distinction is irrelevant, given the predominance of cable/satellite service in homes now. Ignoring this seems disingenuous.

Further, the fact is that the average American gets most news from TV, which already doesn't do a great job, but we cannot afford degradation beyond its current level. I know of nobody who hops on the Internet to get local news, and there is nearly no local news on the radio here in Portland in the unlikely event that somebody would look to that source (other than public radio, of course, which is 1 station).

Your prediction that backlash will likely result later is probably accurate, and kind of ironic in that I see that Mr. Powell used to work in the Antitrust Division at the DOJ. It appears that the large players in the industry will push it as far as possible, then face the consequences later.

Again, thank you for the effort. Your job must be pretty frustrating at the moment, but you seem to be doing all you can, and it is appreciated.

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