

Stephanie Kost

From: democraticmedia@democraticmedia.org
Sent: Saturday, November 22, 2003 8:10 AM
To: Michael Powell; Kathleen Abernathy; Michael Copps; KJMWEB; Commissioner Adelstein
Subject: Stop the digital broadcast give-away

From: Lois Dino

I oppose loosening the rules designed to promote and protect diversity of media ownership. These rules were adopted to ensure that the public would receive a diverse range of viewpoints from the media, and not simply the opinions of a handful of media conglomerates.

As a former employee of a pbs station, I particularly appreciate how difficult it is to get quality television on the air. With the takeover of cable stations by media giants, the fare is becoming all the more homogenous and base. Please do not cheat the public out of their right to know all sides - especially from those voices that do not have the money, clout and influence to afford access to ad-driven & special interest media sources. Thank you.

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Sent: Saturday, November 22, 2003 1:53 AM
To: Michael Powell; Kathleen Abernathy; Michael Copps; KJMWEB; Commissioner Adelstein
Subject: Stop the digital broadcast give-away

From: Amy Loeber

I oppose loosening the rules designed to promote and protect diversity of media ownership. These rules were adopted to ensure that the public would receive a diverse range of viewpoints from the media, and not simply the opinions of a handful of media conglomerates.

It would be wonderful to show independent films on the television so that independent filmmakers will have an additional outlet for their creative endeavors.

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Sent: Saturday, November 22, 2003 1:01 AM
To: Michael Powell; Kathleen Abernathy; Michael Copps; KJMWEB; Commissioner Adelstein
Subject: Stop the digital broadcast give-away

From: Jeanette Woodruff

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The public interest must be protected. Do The right thing.

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From: democraticmedia@democraticmedia.org
Sent: Friday, November 21, 2003 5:05 PM
To: Michael Powell; Kathleen Abernathy; Michael Copps; KJMWEB; Commissioner Adelstein
Subject: Stop the digital broadcast give-away

From: Megan Rogers

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Stephanie Kost

From: Gatling, Tara C. [TCGatling@LMUS.LeggMason.com] on behalf of Blair Levin, Rebecca Arbogast, & David Kaut [blairlevinrebeccaarbogast&davidkaut@LMUS.LeggMason.com]
Sent: Friday, November 21, 2003 11:14 AM
Subject: Legg Mason Washington Telecom & Media Insider



Washington
Telecom & Media Ins.

> See attachment for details & important disclosures and certifications.
>
> WASHINGTON TELECOM AND MEDIA INSIDER HIGHLIGHTS, November 21, 2003
> (full note below)
> * WIRELINE PARTIES STILL FIGHTING AS WIRELESS LNP ARRIVES. With
> wireless local
> number portability due to begin on Monday, wireline parties are
> challenging related obligations to facilitate wireline-to-wireless
> LNP. Wireless carriers say they are focused on implementing LNP, but
> some parties will be on the lookout for foot dragging. BellSouth has asked
> to recover its wireline costs.
> * FCC CONSIDERS NEWS-HUGHES ARBITRATION CONDITION. The FCC restarted
> its internal
> clock on the planned News Corp. deal with Hughes/DirectTV, and a decision
> could come as early as
> next month. We continue to expect the deal to receive FCC (and DOJ)
> approval, but the Commission is
> considering "last best offer" arbitration as a condition to counteract
> increased retransmission leverage.
> * PROVISION TO KEEP 35% TV CAP IN BILL. A measure to keep the FCC's
> national broadcast-
> TV cap at 35% has been penciled into an omnibus appropriations bill,
> though events remain fluid.
> * COURT SETS SPEEDY UNE REVIEW. The D.C. Circuit set a UNE litigation
> schedule that could
> produce a ruling by March, which if it sides with Bell arguments, could
> interrupt state reviews.
> * SBC VOIP BID . SBC VoIP plans could increase Bell-Bell competition,
> antitrust hurdles to mergers.
> * ALSO: Items on Northpoint, Tauzin chairmanship, Internet taxation,
> SBC Illinois ruling, Hill telecom
> antitrust noises, Digital must-carry, NARUC consumer resolution and
> California bill of rights.
>
> <<Washington Telecom & Media Insider n21.pdf>>
>
> Blair Levin
> blevin@leggmason.com
> 202-778-1595
>
> Rebecca Arbogast
> rarbogast@leggmason.com
> 202-778-1978
>
> David Kaut
> dpkaut@leggmason.com
> 202-778-4341
>

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Delivery, and timely delivery, of electronic mail is also not guaranteed. Legg Mason therefore recommends that you do not send time-sensitive or action-oriented messages to us via electronic mail, including authorization to "buy" or "sell" a security or instructions to conduct any other financial transaction. Such requests, orders or instructions will not be processed until Legg Mason can confirm your instructions or obtain appropriate written documentation where necessary.

Stephanie Kost

From: democraticmedia@democraticmedia.org
Sent: Thursday, November 20, 2003 6:29 PM
To: Michael Powell; Kathleen Abernathy; Michael Copps; KJMWEB; Commissioner Adelstein
Subject: Stop the digital broadcast give-away

From: Monica Riocabo

I oppose loosening the rules designed to promote and protect diversity of media ownership. These rules were adopted to ensure that the public would receive a diverse range of viewpoints from the media, and not simply the opinions of a handful of media conglomerates.

I urge Fcc Commissioners to make the public's interest a priority in their agenda; the democratic foundations on which this country is based demand it. A progressive society demands a media environment that recognizes and supports authentic diversity. Giving away a large portion of the media to an elite few with little regulation, will grossly limit the range of information and debate available to the public-an obvious compromise to the First Amendment.

Stephanie Kost

From: Alex Chaky [LoneWolf87@Earthling.net]
Sent: Thursday, November 06, 2003 10:52 PM
To: Michael Powell
Subject: Preserve Diversity and Openness in the Media and on the Internet

Alex Chaky
P.O. Box 1887
Silver Springs, FL 34489

November 6, 2003

Chair Michael Powell
445 12th St SW
Washington, DC 20554

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DEC 19 2003

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Chair Powell:

The Federal Communications Commission is responsible for ensuring that the media serve the public interest. I am concerned that the FCC is acting on behalf of big business rather than the people.

It is clear that the FCC has stepped up its efforts to de-regulate the media and telecommunications industries. You must act now to halt further media consolidation and to preserve the openness and diversity of the Internet.

As a supporter of human's rights, I am concerned that the current media merger free-for-all threatens to rob us all of the independent voices, views and ideas that nourish a pluralistic, democratic society. Ownership consolidation is squeezing out what little diversity remains in the marketplace.

The media are more than just a business; they bring information to people that affects their lives. We cannot have a healthy democracy, and women cannot pursue equal rights, if we are uninformed on the issues. The media have a responsibility to serve the public interest and ensure that all voices are heard. It is your job to promote this.

Please remember U.S. consumers and citizens when you review any further regulations. The media giants already control far too much of our precious information resources.

FYI, I've quite a few interesting ideas on government, democracy, philosophy, metaphysical research, and new technology, among other things. If you are interested in listening to what I have to say, you may contact me at LoneWolf87@Earthling.net. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Alex Chaky

Stephanie Kost

From: Michael H. Smith [tdog35@aol.com]
Sent: Wednesday, November 12, 2003 8:59 AM
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Subject: Comments to the Commissioner

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DEC 19 2003

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Michael H. Smith (tdog35@aol.com) writes:

Almost all media that reach a large audience in the United States are owned by for-profit corporations--institutions that by law are obligated to put the profits of their investors ahead of all other considerations. The goal of maximizing profits is often in conflict with the practice of responsible journalism.

Not only are most major media owned by corporations, these companies are becoming larger and fewer in number as the biggest ones absorb their rivals. This concentration of ownership tends to reduce the diversity of media voices and puts great power in the hands of a few companies. As news outlets fall into the hands of large conglomerates with holdings in many industries, conflicts of interest inevitably interfere with newsgathering. This trend is having a negative influence on the freedom of our free press. This is unamerican. A free press is almost all we have as Americans wanting to hear the truth from our media sources.

Server protocol: HTTP/1.1
Remote host: 172.208.242.57
Remote IP address: 172.208.242.57

Stephanie Kost

From: democraticmedia@democraticmedia.org
Sent: Friday, December 19, 2003 2:07 AM
To: Michael Powell; Kathleen Abernathy; Michael Copps; KJMWEB; Commissioner Adelstein
Subject: Stop the digital broadcast give-away

From: Audrey Worrell

I oppose loosening the rules designed to promote and protect diversity of media ownership. These rules were adopted to ensure that the public would receive a diverse range of viewpoints from the media, and not simply the opinions of a handful of media conglomerates.

No new give-aways To broadcaster by FCC!!

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20541

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Sent: Friday, December 19, 2003 2:04 AM
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Federal Communications Commission
Chief of Staff Secretary

From: Audrey Worrell

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You are giving away A major American foundation stone if you do not use the Commission to assure our free communication conduits. New World Disorder!! No!!

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Director of the Office of
Public Information

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Stephanie Kost

From: David C. Powell [tiburon@infostations.com]
Sent: Thursday, December 18, 2003 11:56 PM
To: Commissioner Adelstein
Subject: Comments to the Commissioner

RECEIVED

DEC 19 2003

Office of the
Attorney General
State of California

David C. Powell (tiburon@infostations.com) writes:

Dear Commissioner Adelstein.

I am concerned that an Internet access monopoly is being created to the detriment of the American public.

I live in a retirement facility and Comcast cable TV is being installed in our city and will soon be available in our unit. That is fine. Comcast is also offering broadband Internet access for the price of \$42.95/month. I presently have a basic telephone dialup account and a small, independent ISP and have been very pleased with the service and the cost. \$9.95/month for the ISP and \$8/month for the phone line.

I contacted Comcast about obtaining access to broadband service using my present ISP and received this response:

"Thank you for contacting Comcast Cable. Unfortunately, we currently do not offer this product. Right now, Comcast is your ISP as well. You can run any ISP through our service, however, the cost is the same."

Comcast made this statement during a hearing at the FCC: "Comcast is fully committed to negotiating mutually beneficial service agreements with Internet service providers so that its cable customers will have a choice of ISPs."

However, if I sign up for high speed Internet access through Comcast it comes with the ISP Comcast.net. I do not want Comcast as my ISP and I certainly don't want to pay for Comcast's ISP features if I do not use them. I have been quite pleased with the small, independent ISP I have been using for considerable time and I want to continue to use them. They have done a good job and are reasonably priced.

Pricing for services: Presently I pay the telephone company for the access service it provides and I pay the ISP company for the Internet services it provides. Two separate services; two separate costs. Fine, that's the way it should be.

What happened to Comcast's commitment to giving its cable customers a choice of ISPs? Comcast's broadband cable access is one service and Comcast's ISP services are another. Two services; there should be two separate costs.

Sincerely.

David C. Powell
657 Sinex Ave
Pacific Grove
CA 93950
831-657-4146

CC:
Senator Diane Feinstein
Senator Barbara Boxer
Congressman Sam Farr

Server protocol: HTTP/1.1
Remote host: 69.19.182.145
Remote IP address: 69.19.182.145

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DEC 19 2003

Michael Powell
Kathleen Abernathy
Michael Copps
KJMWEB
Commissioner Adelstein

From: Edward Gallup

I oppose loosening the rules designed to promote and protect diversity of media ownership. These rules were adopted to ensure that the public would receive a diverse range of viewpoints from the media, and not simply the opinions of a handful of media conglomerates.

It is the duty of the FCC to guard the public's interests--not corporate interests. Nothing less than the future of our democracy is at stake. Without a publicly provided means for the free flow of all ideas the current devolution will continue. When 69% of Americans recently stated they believed in a direct link between Saddam and 9-11, any argument was ended. For whatever reason, the people were operating in ignorance. The present system spawned this ignorance and allowed it to continue. I'll admit that it may not be all media's fault. But the huge liability of an ignorant public nevertheless existed and it threatens our very democracy. Even if it is not "capitalistically" sound to support free public information and idea exchange--it is "democratically" an absolute requirement.

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Sent: Thursday, December 18, 2003 12:31 PM
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From: Bart Preecs

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I am deeply disturbed by the lack of public attention this issue has received. There is a long and dishonorable tradition of deciding these issues inside the closed "FCCworld" of industry lobbyists, Congressional committee staff and FCC staff.

I urge you to hold the widest possible set of public hearings on the implications of digital must carry before taking any action.

Thank you.

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From: Ben Johnson

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I live in a city run by corporations and special interest sold politicians. By having our sold-out politicians giving public airspace to major corporations (yes, the public owns the media, not corporations) it's a slap in the face of democracy, the local communities who watch this programming, and the American people in general. By selling what the public owns as if it belongs to government, or corporations you are increasing civil unrest and social disorder. Continuing down this path will be the end of civility by the public and the end of this so-called democracy. thanks