Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example abuse by a media conglomerate.
Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. If Sinclair is going to ask its local affiliates to broadcast a one-sided and biased show about a candidate (in this case, a show trying to tell us that Kerry is not for whom we should vote), then it needs to immediately follow that program with one that presents another point of view or air neither and let the local affiliates run their own programming as regularly scheduled (Sinclair is asking that they pre-empt regular programming to air this one-sided piece).

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.