

We are irate at the decision by Sinclair Broadcasting to require all of its 62 stations to carry a piece of anti-Kerry propaganda and especially and especially at its presentation only days before the election. Such arrogant abuse of the balanced reporting we have a right to expect of corporations that are licensed to use our airwaves must not be allowed. Should they proceed with this egregious abuse we will certainly oppose renewal of their license. This is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

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. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

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.