

The Federal Communications Commission RE: Docket 04-435
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear FCC Commissioners ,

I strongly urge the FCC to deny the petition of Comcast and Time Warner in the matter of Adelphia Communications Corporation, Debtor-in-Possession. The petition does not serve the public interest.

I oppose the attempt by Comcast and Time Warner to create a national cable duopoly. This transaction will result in too great a level of concentration in the cable industry by undermining the public interest. Consumers will not benefit because after such a merger, the cable companies will have even greater incentives to raise rates while reducing expenses by eroding service quality and community standards. Workers will not benefit because the cable companies will be even more prone to attack workers - especially union workers - by cutting jobs, tearing up negotiated contracts, and denying workers a fair choice about union representation. Competition and democratic programming will not benefit because the merger would also allow the cable companies to restrict the distribution of video programming and the purchase of video programming by favoring their programming, blocking competitor's access to popular programming, and raising advertising rates above competitive levels.

If the FCC approves the transfer, it must ensure employees will retain current jobs and their employment rights will be protected; the new franchise owner will respect and recognize the collective bargaining status of employees that existed prior to the transfer; and the new franchise owner will recognize existing collective bargaining agreements.

It is time for the FCC to protect the public interest and deny the Comcast-Time Warner petition.

Sincerely,

ANNA M BECKLEY
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