



October 26, 2005

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VIA HAND DELIVERY

Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, SW
Washington, DC 20024

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Re: Testimony of Peter D. Aquino, CEO, RCN Corporation, Before the US Senate.

Dear Commissioner Abernathy:

On behalf of RCN Corporation, we are pleased to convey for your reference the attached written testimony of RCN Corporation CEO Peter D. Aquino before the Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights Subcommittee of the Senate Judiciary Committee, presented at the October 19, 2005, hearing on "Video Competition in 2005 – More Consolidation, or New Choices for Consumers?" This testimony presents, from the viewpoint of the nation's first and largest competitive wireline broadband provider, a discussion of the most pressing competitive challenges facing broadband providers today including, most importantly, the problem of fair access to crucial programming controlled by vertically-integrated incumbent cable companies.

In his testimony, Mr. Aquino speaks to the urgent need for conditions to be imposed on the acquisition by Comcast and Time Warner of the Adelphia cable systems and related proposed inter-company system swaps, to protect competitors' access to "must have" programming controlled by Comcast and Time Warner. In addition, Mr. Aquino explains that relief from local franchising requirements for the Regional Bell Operating Companies is not necessary, and argues for preservation of a fair, open, and competitive marketplace for cable services, in which pioneering broadband companies such as RCN have an equal opportunity to bring the benefits of cable competition to consumers.

If you have questions regarding any aspect of Mr. Aquino's testimony, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Ramlall
*Senior Vice President,
Strategy and External Affairs*

Enclosure
cc (by e-mail): Sec. Dortch for filing in MB Docket 05-192