

Jean L. Kiddoo
Direct Phone: (202) 373-6034
Direct Fax: (202) 424-7645

March 16, 2006

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
The Portals
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Bingham McCutchen LLP
Suite 300
3000 K Street NW
Washington, DC
20007-5116
202.424.7500
202.424.7647 fax

Re: Notice of *Ex Parte* Communications
MB Docket No. 05-192 and MB Docket No. 05-311

bingham.com

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Boston
Hartford
London
Los Angeles
New York
Orange County
San Francisco
Silicon Valley
Tokyo
Walnut Creek
Washington

On behalf of RCN Corporation (“RCN”), and pursuant to Section 1.1206 of the Commission’s Rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206 (2002), this is to provide a notice of *ex parte* meetings held in connection with the above-referenced proceedings on the afternoon of February 21, 2006. The meetings were attended by Peter D. Aquino, RCN’s President & Chief Executive Officer, Richard Ramlall, RCN’s Senior Vice President, Strategic, External and Regulatory Affairs, Lynne Buening, RCN’s Vice President, Programming, Amy R. Mehlman of Mehlman Capitol Strategies, Inc., and the undersigned (“RCN Participants”). The RCN Participants met with Donna Gregg, Chief of the Media Bureau, and Sarah Whitesell, Royce Sherlock, and Tracy Waldon of the Media Bureau (“FCC Participants”).

The purpose of these meetings was to discuss some of the points raised in RCN’s Comments filed in MB Docket No. 05-192 concerning the need for the Commission to impose conditions on the proposed mergers that will protect and promote continued wireline competition in the marketplace for the delivery of multi-channel video programming to consumers. The RCN Participants also rebutted the argument set forth in Ex Parte Notices filed by the Applicants in Docket 05-192 on March 7-9, 2006, to the effect that the unavailability of regional sports networks has not been shown to have a negative effect on competition. The RCN Participants described two independent surveys that RCN commissioned in 2000 that clearly show that the Applicants are wrong. In one study, in which 1,100 Philadelphia area residents were polled, 40% of respondents said that they would switch cable providers if they could not get access to SportsNet, and 12% said that they were unsure whether they would be willing to stay with a provider who did not have SportsNet in its lineup. In the second survey, in which 398 Prince George’s County, Maryland, residents were polled, 58% said that they would be less likely to subscribe to a cable company that did not carry local and regional sports.

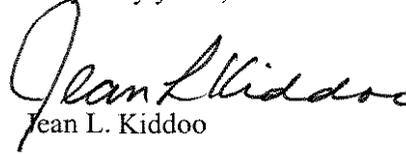
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
March 16, 2006
Page 2

The RCN Participants also discussed the point raised in RCN's Comments filed in MB Docket No. 05-311 that the local franchise process has not, in its experience, unreasonably restricted entry into the video service market. The only written material provided to the FCC Participants was a copy of the Ex Parte Letter filed by RCN on March 3, 2006 in the above-referenced dockets.

Should any additional information be required with respect to this *ex parte* notice, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Bingham McCutchen LLP
bingham.com

Very truly yours,



Jean L. Kiddoo

cc (by electronic mail):
FCC Participants
RCN Participants