

PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATION OF BROADCASTERS

Richard E. Wyckoff
President
rwyckoff@pab.org

8501 Paxton Street
Hummelstown, PA 17036
Voice (717) 482-4820
Fax (717) 482-1111
www.pab.org

Dear Chairman Martin,
from: Nicholas...

07-18

The Honorable Kevin J. Martin
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC. 20554

Dear Chairman Martin,

December 4, 2007

The Pennsylvania Association of Broadcasters would like to file the enclosed comments regarding the pending transfer concerning DirecTv.

Erie, Pennsylvania remains the only television market in our state without local-into-local service and we believe the viewers and licensees of the Erie market deserve to have this service. In addition, we believe DirecTV's present owner, or its transferee, should be bound by earlier promises to provide local-into-local service without delay.

Thank you for you kind consideration.

Sincerely,



Richard Wyckoff

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Before the
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, DC 20554

MB Docket No. 07-18

The Pennsylvania Association of Broadcasters, (PAB) represents the free-over-the-air radio and television broadcast licensees in Pennsylvania.

PAB hereby joins with the North Dakota Broadcasters in seeking that the DirectTV transfer be denied or conditioned on the prompt initiation of local-into-local service in a definitive time period in the very near future.

The television viewers of Erie Pennsylvania do not have the benefit of local-into-local service and are thus deprived of satellite delivered programming by DirectTV of the Erie stations' local news and information – including emergency news and weather information. This is contrary to the promises made by the current owner of DirectTV.

PAB does not believe the parties to the above transfer should be able now to change earlier commitments to provide local channels in all 210 DMAs by arguing that a “seamless, integrated local channel package” now means the use of an A-B switch. Erie's viewers should not be denied local programming so that DirectTV can focus those resources on urban and highly populated regions for greater profit.

All other television markets in Pennsylvania are served by DirectTV local-into-local service. Erie's viewers deserve local programming and not imported distant signals. Valuable local programming is being denied to these viewers and the local Erie television stations are being denied the support these viewers would generate.

Simply put, a commitment was made by DirectTV to provide local-into-local service and the FCC should see that this commitment is kept.

Thus, PAB supports the North Dakota Broadcasters Petition and asks that the above transfer be either denied or conditioned so that local-into-local, satellite delivered service, becomes a reality in the very near future, not just for Erie, Pennsylvania, but for all those markets so promised years ago.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Wyckoff', written in a cursive style.

Richard Wyckoff
President

December 4, 2007



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