Reply to comments of RCN Telecom Services, Inc of Feb 6,2008

I would like to second the comments of RCN that "the Commission's actions will greatly assist MDU residents to have more choices for their video services."

I live in Live Oak Preserve (LOP) in Tampa, Fl. We are "served" by Century Communications,a company owned by the family of the original developer of LOP, through a 15 year, exclusive contract that was drawn up with no residents' input by the HOA controlled by the original developer. All owners must pay Century through the HOA fees whether they use their services or not.

RCN states "when a competitive provider cannot gain access to an MDU passed by its network it cannot use that investment to offer its' competitive "triple play" services to subscribers who it is ready, willing and able to serve." LOP was recently "wired" by Verizon, I am sure at considerable cost, who must rely on the richer LOP residents to recoup their investment. I say richer because most of us cannot afford to pay for duplicate services. Brighthouse, which also services the Tampa area, did not even bother to wire LOP I assume because it knew of the 15 year contract and feared it could not operate profitably in LOP. RCN echoes this notion by stating "The new entrant therefore loses the opportunity to recover its investment over the maximum number of homes passed by its network and therefore to lower its overall cost of services to the benefit of all subscribers."

With Century's exclusive, long-term contract they have no incentive to improve their services just as RCN comments that "the residents of a 'locked up' MDU do not obtain the benefits of increased competition, such as lower prices, more programming channels and a greater diversity of programming."

The RCN comments, including their ideas concerning providers already circumventing the new ruling, are spot on and I hope are strongly considered by the Commission.