

Reply to comments of the Thames Valley Communications, Inc (TVC)

The comments of TVC make me wish this company's stated philosophy would be used by all PCO's. If so there would be no need for 07-51.

As stated "TVC does not believe that bulk billing arrangements, per se, are anti-competitive." In describing their operation they point out that "such arrangements do not provide for, or allow, exclusive access by TVC to the residents of a MDU". Also "residents are not required to accept cable or Internet service from TVC as part of a bulk billing agreement".

Unfortunately in many American housing developments, the bulk billing arrangements set up by HOA's are exclusive in nature requiring residents to pay for these services through HOA fees whether the services are used or not.

It certainly would be nice if all providers could operate as TVC describes : "While residents of a MDU with a bulk billing agreement with TVC are free to change providers, it is logical to anticipate that as long as TVC provides a quality product with good customer service, residents will not change video providers for a purely selfish, financial reason, i.e. they save money by selecting TVC."

Unfortunately, many MDU's have long-term contracts set up by their developers with providers that see a steady stream of income for 15, 60, even 75 years (as stated in posts on this site) so they have little incentive to provide quality product and good customer service.

I commend TVC on their operation and see nothing wrong with their bulk billing arrangements; however, agreements which REQUIRE EXCLUSIVITY are far from being anti-competitive in their operations.