

It is good to see the FCC is seeking input on information that is available to consumers when selecting providers.

My concerns relate mostly with the amount of information provided for planned communities that have provider services tied to HOA fees and dues. Many comments in these areas have been provided under proceeding 07-51.

First, I live in a planned community called Southern Walk at Broadlands in Northern Virginia. While processing for the purchase of our home, it was disclosed to us that there were two HOAs, one of which covered telephone, cable TV, and internet services (OpenBand).

However, we were not informed of the following:

1. The contract length being 25 yrs with four options to renew in 10 year segments each.
2. That the majority vote on the HOA board (Van Metre Homes) that reviews and approves pricing increases was part owner of the company (Openband).
3. That Van Metre Homes was receiving paybacks from the provider in the amount of 8% of our HOA covered basic services and 12% of premium services.
4. That the provider would do nothing to maintain a competitive edge.
5. That we could not bring in a competitive providers because our current provider (OpenBand)"owned" all rights of way.
6. That even if we could (and really only could for television services through satellite coverage), we still would be required to pay the full HOA dues under the bulk billing arrangement.
7. That prices would be far higher than other competitive providers who offer more services at a lower cost.

A number of communities addressed these issues with the FCC through submissions on 07-51 and in person meetings with various commissioner staff members to no avail. Our local and state governments will not help because in most cases they do not regulate these types of services.

The best thing that the FCC could do is to outlaw bulk billing arrangements so that citizens who have been snookered into bad deals can at least get out of them. If this was in place, my family would only subscribe to internet services, maintain our satellite TV and use our cell phones instead of telephone land lines.

Please take this into consideration and re-open and finalize a ruling on 07-51.

Respectfully,

Paul Dillmuth