

To Whom This May Concern At The FCC,

The Comcast-NBC merger is bad for everyone. For consumers it will lead to higher prices, fewer choices and less innovation. The combined company will use its control of content and distribution to squeeze out competitors and stick consumers with the bill.

The fact that Comcast has launched "TV Everywhere" means that "Comcast wants competition nowhere. These are transparent efforts to preserve the cable cartel that gouges consumers. Comcast wants to be the gatekeeper to the video programming world. This service is a threat to innovative online video and an attempt by the industry to impose the cable-TV model onto the Internet.

If Comcast is not attempting to stifle competition, then why is it only available to Comcast cable subscribers and not nationwide for all Internet users? Comcast's power to manipulate online video is particularly troubling as the cable behemoth prepares to gobble up NBC Universal.

"The move today by the FCC highlights a problem consumers should worry about across the media industry. For years, cable operators have exploited a loophole in the law that lets them restrict access to popular programming for themselves and hurt their competitors. The FCC is closing the loophole and requiring nondiscriminatory access for all competitive cable operators. The same basic principle should apply to Internet video distribution; and it should cause regulators to take a hard look at TV Everywhere -- a similarly anti-competitive move online."

President Obama has pledged to "reinvigorate antitrust enforcement." It's time Washington stood with the public and stopped the Comcast-NBC mega-merger.