

FCC,

I'm writing this letter in regard to the Comcast NBC-U merger that is about to occur. The reasoning for writing this letter is that this merger is a poor idea and will greatly restrict everyday people for being able to choose their own cable providers. In my area, I am able to choose from Comcast, Verizon, and Direct TV to provide me with cable channels. Some of those channels include the ones owned by NBC-U. Now does it sound wise to allow one of those three companies to have control over the media that they distribute? Comcast can easily make the channels that NBC owns available only through Comcast. And as you know NBC owns quite a few channels including USA, NBC sports, MSNBC, Oxygen, SyFy, and even the weather channel. With ownership of these channels Comcast could easily bring over many people from satellite or Verizon by having them be Comcast only channels. Dish network has sent a letter arguing that the merger will destroy the competition if this merger isn't settled correctly. They claim that "The stakes are too high to allow a Comcast-NBCU merger to proceed as the applicants propose. Once a merger is complete, there is no "second chance" to get it right. If the government allows this merger to proceed, it must be only after meaningful, tough conditions are firmly in place." Comcast has another way they can abuse this type of power. They could also do away with certain channels that are in competition with their own. Comcast has their own sports channel and would quickly do away with NBC sports. Comcast will also gain control over Universal studios meaning they could easily make all of the movies produced by them only available through Comcast On-demand. Now obviously they won't make it the only way to receive these movies but it will be the only On-demand service available. There are just too many ways for Comcast to abuse this merger and their customers.

Comcast was also never very good with their customer service. That's why they began to have the guarantees that your cable man will show up on time and if he didn't you would receive money. They have gone another step to distance themselves from the poor customer service by having a name change. Their new name is Xfinity. No company ever changes their name unless they need to lose old stigmas. They have had a poor track record of customer service so why would they use this merger to benefit their customers.

Now Comcast claims that none of this will occur and are making promises to prevent it. Such as keeping what they gain from NBC-U a separate company from Comcast. Also that they will still provide the cable channels for everyone. They also go on to say that they will use this control over NBC to help the consumer by being able to have lower prices and make the media easier to access. But these are nothing but promises. The government needs to take control of the situation and impose restrictions to prevent Comcast from taking advantage of the power they possess. Or even better is to prevent the merger from even occurring. Someway somehow you must take control over this and prevent the media apocalypse that is about to occur if this merger is completed.

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