

**Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515**

February 4, 2010

The Honorable Julius Genachowski
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Dear Chairman Genachowski:

We are writing to express our opposition to Comcast Corporation's acquisition of NBC Universal. If this deal is approved, it would further consolidate a U.S. media industry that is already controlled by a handful of corporate conglomerates. Localism, diversity, and competition in today's media, all of which are severely weak, would be nearly lost. At a time when it is critically important for the public to be able to access independent sources of information, we believe this acquisition should not go forward and urge you to reject it when it comes before the Federal Communications Commission.

Over the last twenty years, the U.S. media industry has experienced massive consolidation. Today, five companies own the broadcast networks, 90 percent of the top 50 cable networks, produce three-quarters of all prime time programming, and control 70 percent of the prime time television market share. These same companies own the nation's most popular newspapers and networks also own over 85 percent of the top twenty internet news sites. There has also been a severe decline in the number of minority owned broadcast stations. In 2007, minorities owned just 3.2 percent of the U.S. television stations and 7 percent of the nation's full power radio stations, despite making up more than 34 percent of the population.

If Comcast's acquisition of NBC Universal is allowed to proceed, the company would control content production and content distribution at an unprecedented level. A Comcast-NBC conglomerate would own the nation's largest cable system, one of the nation's largest networks, 27 broadcast television stations, 14 national cable channels, seven production studios, and several of the fast growing internet properties.

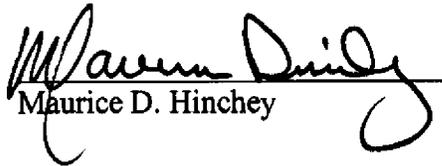
This widened control over the public's access to information would have extremely negative consequences. Comcast would be in a powerful position to advance its networks and its programming at the expense of others because it will control the cable system most people use to watch television, as well as numerous additional television broadcast stations. And it would further limit the public's access to independent sources of information, which is absolutely essential to a well-functioning democracy.

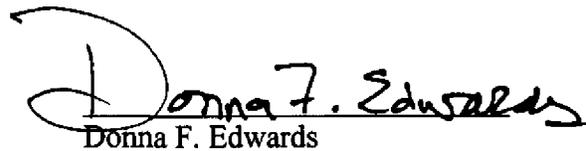
The Supreme Court, on numerous occasions, has upheld the right of the commission and of the Congress to establish media protections, acknowledging that a monopolization of ideas is antithetical to our democracy. In 1945, the Court declared that, "the widest

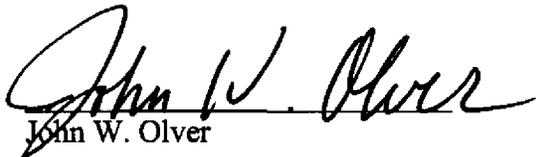
possible dissemination of information from diverse and antagonistic sources is essential to the welfare of the public, that a free press is a condition of a free society." In 1969, the Supreme Court stated, "It is the purpose of the First Amendment to preserve an uninhibited marketplace of ideas in which truth will ultimately prevail, rather than to countenance monopolization of that market, whether it be by the Government itself or a private licensee."

The debate over the direction of media in America is one of the most, if not the most, critical issues we face today. There is no issue more central to the future of a properly functioning democracy than how Americans receive information. We hope you will reject this acquisition and, instead, take steps to reduce the consolidation of the U.S. media industry.

Sincerely,

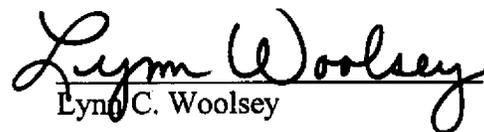

Maurice D. Hinchey


Donna F. Edwards


John W. Olver


Bob Filner


Fortney Pete Stark


Lynn C. Woolsey


Carolyn McCarthy

CC: Michael J. Copps, FCC Commissioner
CC: Robert M. McDowell, FCC Commissioner
CC: Mignon Clyburn, FCC Commissioner
CC: Meredith Attwell Baker, FCC Commissioner



OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

April 20, 2010

The Honorable Maurice D. Hinchey
U.S. House of Representatives
2431 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Hinchey:

Thank you for your letter regarding the proposed joint venture between Comcast Corporation and General Electric Company (GE), which includes GE's NBC Universal, Inc. (NBCU). I appreciate learning your views on the proposed transaction and your correspondence will be made part of the record in this proceeding.

On January 28, 2010, Comcast, GE, and NBCU jointly filed an application with the Commission seeking approval of the proposed transaction. On March 18, 2010, the Commission issued a *Public Notice* requesting public comment on the proposed Comcast-GE joint venture. Please be assured that the Commission will conduct a thorough and fact-based review of this proposed transaction. The issues discussed in your letter related to media consolidation will be considered carefully as part of the Commission's independent review of the transaction.

I appreciate your interest in this important matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I may be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julius Genachowski", written over a faint "2010" stamp.

Julius Genachowski



OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

April 20, 2010

The Honorable Lynn Woolsey
U.S. House of Representatives
2263 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Woolsey:

Thank you for your letter regarding the proposed joint venture between Comcast Corporation and General Electric Company (GE), which includes GE's NBC Universal, Inc. (NBCU). I appreciate learning your views on the proposed transaction and your correspondence will be made part of the record in this proceeding.

On January 28, 2010, Comcast, GE, and NBCU jointly filed an application with the Commission seeking approval of the proposed transaction. On March 18, 2010, the Commission issued a *Public Notice* requesting public comment on the proposed Comcast-GE joint venture. Please be assured that the Commission will conduct a thorough and fact-based review of this proposed transaction. The issues discussed in your letter related to media consolidation will be considered carefully as part of the Commission's independent review of the transaction.

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Julius Genachowski



OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

April 20, 2010

The Honorable Fortney (Pete) Stark
U.S. House of Representatives
239 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Stark:

Thank you for your letter regarding the proposed joint venture between Comcast Corporation and General Electric Company (GE), which includes GE's NBC Universal, Inc. (NBCU). I appreciate learning your views on the proposed transaction and your correspondence will be made part of the record in this proceeding.

On January 28, 2010, Comcast, GE, and NBCU jointly filed an application with the Commission seeking approval of the proposed transaction. On March 18, 2010, the Commission issued a *Public Notice* requesting public comment on the proposed Comcast-GE joint venture. Please be assured that the Commission will conduct a thorough and fact-based review of this proposed transaction. The issues discussed in your letter related to media consolidation will be considered carefully as part of the Commission's independent review of the transaction.

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Sincerely,

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Julius Genachowski



OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

April 20, 2010

The Honorable John W. Olver
U.S. House of Representatives
1111 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Olver:

Thank you for your letter regarding the proposed joint venture between Comcast Corporation and General Electric Company (GE), which includes GE's NBC Universal, Inc. (NBCU). I appreciate learning your views on the proposed transaction and your correspondence will be made part of the record in this proceeding.

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Julius Genachowski



OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

April 20, 2010

The Honorable Carolyn McCarthy
U.S. House of Representatives
2346 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman McCarthy:

Thank you for your letter regarding the proposed joint venture between Comcast Corporation and General Electric Company (GE), which includes GE's NBC Universal, Inc. (NBCU). I appreciate learning your views on the proposed transaction and your correspondence will be made part of the record in this proceeding.

On January 28, 2010, Comcast, GE, and NBCU jointly filed an application with the Commission seeking approval of the proposed transaction. On March 18, 2010, the Commission issued a *Public Notice* requesting public comment on the proposed Comcast-GE joint venture. Please be assured that the Commission will conduct a thorough and fact-based review of this proposed transaction. The issues discussed in your letter related to media consolidation will be considered carefully as part of the Commission's independent review of the transaction.

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Julius Genachowski



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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

April 20, 2010

The Honorable Bob Filner
U.S. House of Representatives
2428 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Filner:

Thank you for your letter regarding the proposed joint venture between Comcast Corporation and General Electric Company (GE), which includes GE's NBC Universal, Inc. (NBCU). I appreciate learning your views on the proposed transaction and your correspondence will be made part of the record in this proceeding.

On January 28, 2010, Comcast, GE, and NBCU jointly filed an application with the Commission seeking approval of the proposed transaction. On March 18, 2010, the Commission issued a *Public Notice* requesting public comment on the proposed Comcast-GE joint venture. Please be assured that the Commission will conduct a thorough and fact-based review of this proposed transaction. The issues discussed in your letter related to media consolidation will be considered carefully as part of the Commission's independent review of the transaction.

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Julius Genachowski



OFFICE OF
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

April 20, 2010

The Honorable Donna F. Edwards
U.S. House of Representatives
318 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Edwards:

Thank you for your letter regarding the proposed joint venture between Comcast Corporation and General Electric Company (GE), which includes GE's NBC Universal, Inc. (NBCU). I appreciate learning your views on the proposed transaction and your correspondence will be made part of the record in this proceeding.

On January 28, 2010, Comcast, GE, and NBCU jointly filed an application with the Commission seeking approval of the proposed transaction. On March 18, 2010, the Commission issued a *Public Notice* requesting public comment on the proposed Comcast-GE joint venture. Please be assured that the Commission will conduct a thorough and fact-based review of this proposed transaction. The issues discussed in your letter related to media consolidation will be considered carefully as part of the Commission's independent review of the transaction.

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