

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 17, 2010

The Honorable Julius Genachowski
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Chairman Genachowski:

We write to express our support of the proposed transaction between Comcast and General Electric (GE) to form a new NBC Universal (NBCU). This joint venture combines the efforts of a leading communications company and an iconic content creation company to respond to rapid technological developments, market dynamics, and changing consumer demands. We strongly encourage the Commission to analyze the facts of the transaction, and we believe that once it does so, it will come to the conclusion that furthers the public interest in significant respects.

We would also like to commend you for the deliberate and expeditious way in which you have conducted your agency's review of the transaction. Considering the continued fragility of the national economy and the importance of giving the business community the certainty it needs to proceed with investment, it is imperative that the Commission's review process continues to uphold the highest standard of substantive and procedural integrity.

Between your efforts and those of the Congress, the Comcast/NBCU joint venture has already enjoyed unprecedented opportunities for public participation and scrutiny. Four Congressional committees have held over 15 hours of public hearings in February and March to hear from a wide range of witnesses on all aspects of the joint venture. The Commission originally provided 45 days for initial comments and petitions to deny, with an additional 30 days for responses and an additional 15 days for replies to responses. As the Commission noted, this was the longest formal pleading cycle it has ever set for any similar transaction.

Recently, after asking the parties for two detailed economic studies to complete the record, the Media Bureau granted an additional 45 days for public comment. We believe your decision was reasonable and we appreciate your efforts to make sure that the public and the other Commissioners have the time to review this data early in the process. We believe that those legal and economic analyses are relevant to your public interest review and that the data will better inform the Commission's analysis and enable you to review this transaction dispassionately. We recommend that you hold assiduously to the FCC's 180-day transaction clock and reject any further efforts to stop the clock.

This transaction presents opportunities that will launch the communications, information and technology industry into a new era of competition, creativity, and innovation. The Commission should act on this pro-consumer, pro-competition transaction without delay.

Sincerely,



Mike Doyle
Member of Congress



Fred Upton
Member of Congress