



June 1, 2010

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Commissioner Meredith Attwell-Baker
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Michael Copps
Commissioner Robert McDowell
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Community Response to Governors of California, New York and Pennsylvania Supporting the Comcast/NBC Universal Merger

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners Baker, Clyburn, Copps and McDowell,

We write on behalf of the Black Economic Council, the Latino Business Chamber of Greater Los Angeles and Mabuhay Alliance, three major protesters before the FCC in regard to the Comcast/NBC Universal merger.

Our concern relates to the letter of May 25th from three governors, including the governor of California. In the case of California's governor, there is a major separation between the Governor and both the Democratic State Majority and Republican State Party legislators. This is also evidenced by a lack of support the public has for the Governor. The latest poll showed only a 23 percent support for the Governor and even among Republicans, only a 26 percent approval rating. Similar estrangements between the State Legislature, the public and the governor exist in regard to the State of New York.

The Governor of California and his staff, including the Secretary of Business, Transportation and Housing, has made no effort to determine the public's view regarding Comcast and NBC Universal. The letter contains only some general statements regarding "two great American companies."¹ During Governor Schwarzenegger's six years in office, he has not been involved, except as a cheerleader, in regards to Comcast/NBC Universal's failure to reflect the diversity of his state (over 55 percent minorities) or to reflect the employment needs of this very diverse state.

All the governors are correct that Comcast has put forward a series of "public interest commitments." However, the California Governor and his staff are generally unfamiliar in these companies' hiring

¹ It may be that Comcast and NBC Universal provide almost 130,000 jobs in 40 states as the governors suggest. However, the governors have failed to mention the surprisingly small percentage of Blacks, Latinos and Asian Americans in their overall employment and among their senior management and creative staff. We are prepared to demonstrate that this record is far worse than two telecommunication competitors, AT&T and Verizon.



records and have played no role in encouraging these companies to support the concerns of the minority community.

Given the need of some governors for publicity rather than results, we urge that the governors' cheerleader letter of May 25th be ignored. Instead, we urge the Commission to focus on the requests by various congresspersons, including the letter sent by 45 congresspersons urging the equivalent of Public Hearings. We also call to this Commission's attention the Field Hearing which all three of our organizations have sought. Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee John Conyers will be holding a hearing on June 7th in Los Angeles. We hope Governor Schwarzenegger and/or his senior staff will be attending and/or participating, and we would urge that the governors of New York and Pennsylvania also send senior staff.

Most importantly, we urge this Commission to hold Public Hearings in California and in other states on this merger, and invite all three governors and/or their staff to testify. Only through Public Hearings will the underlying data be available to the governors and the public.

Most sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Faith Bautista".

Faith Bautista
President and CEO
Mabuhay Alliance

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Len Canty".

Len Canty
Chairman
Black Economic Council

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jorge Corralejo".

Jorge Corralejo
Chairman and CEO
The Latino Business Chamber of Greater Los Angeles

Cc: Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, State of California
Governor David Paterson, State of New York
Governor Edward Rendell, State of Pennsylvania
Dale E. Bonner, Secretary of the Business, Transportation & Housing Agency