



Michigan Government Television

A public affairs initiative of Michigan's cable industry.

111. S. Capitol Ave., 4th Floor, Romney Building
Lansing, MI 48933

June 10, 2010

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

Re: MB Docket No. 10-56

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

As you review the proposed merger between Comcast and NBCU, I urge you to consider how well these companies serve the communities in which they do business. In particular, I know firsthand how Comcast has offered strong and consistent support for public policy initiatives that open up the proceedings of Michigan's state government to a wider audience, bringing us closer to our democracy and making us better equipped to participate in it.

Michigan Government Television (MGTV) provides live and taped coverage of all branches of Michigan's government. Our mission is to provide elected or appointed officials and others who would influence public policy a direct conduit to the audience without filtering or otherwise distorting their points of view. We also allow our audience, through MGTV's call-in programs, direct access to elected officials, other policymakers, and journalists. Through our on-air programming and through our on-line, video, and print materials, we help educate students, teachers, and the citizenry at large about the three branches of their state government.

Comcast is both a founder and a leading supporter of this mission. Their financial and in-kind support makes live and taped coverage of the Michigan Legislature, Executive Branch, and Supreme Court available to Michigan's citizens. Comcast also supports the creation of educational materials dealing with local government for our public schools and provides the platform for a wide and diverse range of local programming on public access television. Through their support and innovation, Comcast has set a high standard for local programming, news, and education in Michigan. At a time when many have questioned the viability of localism in programming, Comcast and MGTV have shown not only that it can be done, but also that it can be done well.

I urge you to keep this critical support for local democracy in mind as you review the pending merger between Comcast and NBCU. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Bill Trevarthen
Executive Director
Michigan Government Television

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Phone (517) 373-4250 • Fax (517) 335-7342
E-Mail: mgtv@mgtv.org • Website: www.mgtv.org