

City of Galveston



Office of the Mayor

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April 19, 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,

When I learned the FCC was reviewing the proposed venture of Comcast and NBC Universal I felt compelled to write and encourage your approval. Comcast has been more than a cable and internet provider in Galveston, Texas; it has been a lifeline to our community in a time of need.

Galveston has had more than its fair share of challenges and heartache within the last two years. Hurricane Ike hit us hard and fast but it never broke the spirit of our community. Because of partners like Comcast that helped us in our recovery efforts, we are slowly but surely re-building.

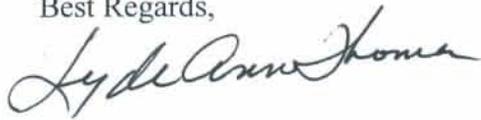
As Mayor, long time public servant and Galveston native, I have a great deal of pride and love for my community. To see it torn apart in a matter of hours was devastating. However, we were able to immediately get underway in communicating with our residents and family members thanks to Comcast's quick action. Comcast participated in press conferences as soon as possible after the storm subsided providing critical updates to the community on recovery efforts at these events. Comcast also helped our residents maintain contact with their loved ones while services were down and irreparable. By establishing a communications hub at a central site on Galveston Island, Comcast allowed those who remained on the island during the hurricane, some 20,000 people, to access the Internet for FEMA and relief information, as well as reach out to family to let them know they were OK and getting help. Comcast set up a phone bank and computer station, and also made cable and TV services available at a community center where a large group of people had gathered. Comcast's action and efforts made a huge difference in the hours and days following Ike.

But Comcast's support for the recovering residents of Galveston did not stop there. The company employees were thoughtful enough to donate over 1,000 holiday toys for children impacted by Ike and even delivered the donation to the community themselves. This was a difficult Christmas for many families, but Comcast made it a little brighter.

I cannot thank Comcast enough for its responsiveness in our time of need and the continued generosity it displays.

I support the joining of Comcast and NBC Universal and encourage the FCC to allow the proposed partnership to proceed. All of Galveston shares in my wishes for Comcast's success.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lyda Ann Thomas".

Lyda Ann Thomas
Mayor
Galveston, Texas

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