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August 16, 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:

On behalf of the Illinois Science & Technology Coalition, I write to express our support for the proposed joint venture between Comcast and NBC Universal.

The Illinois Science & Technology Coalition's mission is to cultivate economic development in Illinois by increasing resources for Research & Development (R&D) initiatives at Illinois-based institutions and businesses. As the only organization representing the full range of science and technology activity in Illinois, we aim to foster public-private partnerships to develop and execute R&D projects; advocate for funding for R&D initiatives; and to collaborate with public and private partners to attract and retain R&D resources and talent in Illinois.

It is our belief and expectation that Comcast's partnership with NBC Universal will promote new investment in our state's infrastructure, which will lead to enhanced support for business and improved access to information and programming for consumers and schools. Couple this new investment with Comcast's ongoing efforts to extend broadband connectivity and capacity, and we believe this new partnership will improve access to the tools that are essential to induce innovation and provide a key support mechanism for R&D and economic growth

We believe that this partnership will not only help businesses, but it will help consumers as well. The partnership will lead to increased investment in programming, creating improved consumer choice and options. The enhanced access to broadband technology will also greatly benefit anchor institutions like schools, libraries, community colleges, universities and hospitals. By strengthening these anchor institutions the partnership will help to promote more unified communities with the ability to interact both locally and globally.

We are hopeful the Commission will complete its review of the joint venture as soon as possible and affirm the proposal from Comcast and NBC Universal.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jordan D. Cutler". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the last name "Cutler" being particularly prominent.

Jordan Cutler
Director, Program Development