

January 5, 2011

The Honorable Julius Genachowski
The Honorable Michael J. Copps
The Honorable Robert M. McDowell
The Honorable Mignon Clyburn
The Honorable Meredith Attwell Baker
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: MB Docket No. 10-56

Dear Mr. Chairman and Commissioners:

As an independent filmmaker who has recently worked with Comcast, I am writing you to voice my support for the approval of the new joint venture between NBC Universal and Comcast this year. It will be good for independent filmmakers because it will drive new distribution opportunities for our work.

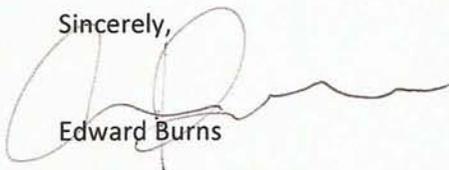
For filmmakers like myself, the cost of getting our films in front of viewers has declined, as we no longer need to produce videotapes or even DVDs, or sell our films to distributors. But at the same time, opportunities for independents in movie theaters have declined as theatrical attendance continues to slump.

As a case in point, my latest film, *Nice Guy Johnny*, reached 46 million homes using a combination of Comcast On Demand, iTunes, and other digital distributors. Without spending a cent on advertising, we came in eighth on iTunes' rental catalog, which was better than many studio films and their deep-pocketed marketing departments. We're hoping this is the wave of the future as this new technology allows us to reach an even wider audience than before.

I've seen in Comcast a real commitment to independent film. That might not seem logical from a corporation about to acquire a major TV and film production company, but I see their logic. Comcast wants to drive more innovative distribution platforms. They want all the quality content they can get. Being able to use strong Hollywood content to drive these new platforms means that those platforms become much more viable for independents, too.

Comcast has showed me that they want independents to succeed and because of our recent collaboration, I hope you will strongly consider allowing this deal to move forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Edward Burns', written over a horizontal line.

Edward Burns