

**Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554**

In the Matter of)
)
Annual Assessment of the Status of) MB Docket No. 12-203
Competition in the Market for the)
Delivery of Video Programming)

**COMMENTS OF
The City of Connersville, Indiana**

The City of Connersville, Indiana submits these comments in response to the above-captioned Notice of Inquiry (“NOI”), released July 20, 2012, seeking “data, information, and comment on the state of competition in the delivery of video programming.”

**The City of Connersville, Indiana operates an Education/Government access
cable channel which serves our city and county.**

1. The City of Connersville, a city of 15,000 residents, operates one channel on both of our local cable companies: Comcast & Metronet.
2. The channel is located on cable channel 3 on both providers and is accessible on the lowest cable service tier. Comcast requires the use of a free addressable cable tuner box on the lowest tier; Metronet is available as an analog signal on the lower tiers.
3. There are the same number of local PEG channels carried now as there were June 2010.
4. There are no data sources except our own channel and webpage to track the availability of PEG programming.
5. AT&T U-verse is not in our community.
6. TV3 provides full gavel to gavel coverage of all municipal, county and school public meetings. We also provide coverage of local sports and events, including: high school & middle school football, soccer, volleyball, basketball, baseball and swimming and events such as band and choir performances, parades, the annual fair, and many more. It is important to note that when Metronet Cable overbuilt in our community one of the first questions potential subscribers asked was whether TV3 would be available on their system. This came to light when Metronet management came to us to work quicker to get our fiber optic return feed up and running. Surely this points to our value in the community and to the local cable systems. TV3 is solely funded by cable franchise fees and has been limited by the Indiana state cable franchise law in that we are no longer able to negotiate for capital or community improvements. We also have no ability to respond to residents issues of quality (either in service or customer service). The largest concern however is the continued attempts at the State level to eliminate the franchise fees all together or to lower the percentage collected. If this were to succeed the service we have provided since 1972 would not

be able to survive. We need help in mandating and securing a provision for a franchise fee requirement of the 5% we now receive. Again, any drop in this income would eliminate PEG channels and services in a town our size as the revenue stream would be too small for the channel to be sustainable.

John R. Pause
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