

**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)	

**REPLY COMMENTS OF
FRONTIER COMMUNITY ACCESS TELEVISION, INC. (FCAT)**

FCAT submits these reply 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” and the opening comments filed in this proceeding.

FCAT is a 501(C)3 nonprofit organization, located in South Deerfield, Massachusetts, and organized for the purpose of promoting and enabling community and civic communication through the access and use of cable- television and other emerging technologies.

FCAT provides essential services to the four towns of Conway, Deerfield, Sunderland and Whately through live, unedited coverage of local government meetings, community events, and arts and music presentations. FCAT also provides training and technical assistance to elder groups, youth ages 12 to 17, and others. FCAT’s outreach program includes services to the local regional school through television coverage of sporting events, music concerts, and other youth-oriented activities.

Funding for FCAT is completely reliant on the cable-franchise agreement between the towns of Conway, Deerfield, Sunderland and Whately, and the cable-television provider (Comcast, Inc.). While FCAT has sought local grants, and some underwriting from local business, those sources of funding are inadequate to maintain even a basic level of service to our constituency. Additionally, as our service area is primarily rural, and as the local newspaper coverage of local events is continuously shrinking, there are limited information services available to many in our area. Our viewers rely on local cable access television as a principal source of information regarding town activities, and local government functions.

We respectfully request that the FCC, in reviewing and determining rules regarding cable-television, bear in mind that local cable-television remains an essential part of local information deliver, and civic connection.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Douglas C. Finn'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'D' and 'F'.

Douglas C. Finn, General Manager
Frontier Community Access Television
8B Elm Street * South Deerfield, MA 01373
doug@fcats.tv * 413-665-0012