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VIA ECFS

February 20, 2014

Marlene H. Dortch, Esq.
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington DC 20554

**RE: Supplement to Buckeye Cablevision Complaint Against Sinclair Broadcast Group,
CSR No. _____, MB Docket No. 14-_____**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Buckeye Cablevision, Inc. (“Buckeye”) hereby supplements its above-referenced complaint against SBG and requests that the FCC immediately initiate enforcement action against Sinclair Broadcast Group (“SBG”) for its refusal to engage in good faith retransmission consent negotiations in flagrant violation of 47 C.F.R. § 76.65(b)(1)(i).¹

SBG’s attached press release, dated February 19, 2014, announces that SBG will no longer negotiate retransmission consent with Buckeye for WNWO-TV in Toledo, Ohio.² This announcement is a public declaration that SBG does not intend to fulfill its duty under the FCC’s rules to negotiate retransmission consent in good faith. Even for a company like SBG that has a long history of pushing the FCC’s rules to their limits, the Press Release is a surprisingly candid public announcement that it has no intention of being bound by FCC requirements. The Press Release shows SBG’s contempt for Congress’s retransmission consent negotiating regime and is a direct challenge to the FCC’s good faith bargaining rules. And it is obvious that SBG is retaliating against Buckeye for availing itself of those rules by filing the Complaint. To maintain the integrity of the retransmission consent system, the FCC must respond to SBG’s open defiance of the rules.

As explained in the Complaint, SBG has engaged in a pattern of bad faith negotiation, culminating in its unilateral termination of negotiations on February 7, 2014.³ The primary victims of SBG’s bad faith are Toledo cable television subscribers that have been deprived of access to NBC network programming for the last two months due to SBG’s misconduct. The Press Release publicly confirms the allegations in the Complaint and unequivocally demonstrates that SBG has no plans to provide any relief to the viewers that it is licensed to serve. Instead, SBG will continue to place its pursuit of unfair and excessive retransmission

¹ See Buckeye Cablevision, Inc. vs. Sinclair Broadcast Group, filed February 18, 2014 (the “Complaint”).

² See Exhibit 1 (the “Press Release”).

³ See Complaint at i-ii, 2-3, 16-18.



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consent payments above its duty to serve Toledo viewers in the public interest. And SBG will flaunt its refusal to negotiate until the FCC makes it return to bargaining.

SBG's conduct forces a clear and crucial choice on the FCC – the agency can either enforce the good faith rules against SBG or surrender the only weapon it has to combat unlawful bad faith. No issue of fact exists in this matter; SBG has admitted that it will not negotiate. The FCC must act swiftly to ensure that retransmission consent negotiations continue. The only way to accomplish this result and to ensure that SBG conforms its conduct to the FCC's rules in this and future disputes is to (1) issue an order requiring SBG to return to the bargaining table immediately; and (2) commence enforcement action to examine SBG's admitted violation of the rules.

Buckeye requests expedited treatment of this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Michael D. Basile
Jason E. Rademacher
Counsel for Buckeye Cablevision, Inc.

Attachment

cc (w/attachment): Steven Broeckaert
Mary Beth Murphy
Simon Banyai
Nancy Murphy
Cliff Harrington (counsel for SBG)

Contact: Barry Faber, EVP & General Counsel
(410) 568-1500

**SINCLAIR BROADCAST GROUP ANNOUNCES END
OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH BUCKEYE CABLE**

Encourages Buckeye Subscribers to join the thousands of former Buckeye subscribers that have already switched to other video providers like Dish Network, DirecTV and AT&T U-verse

TOLEDO, OH (February 19, 2014) –Sinclair Broadcast Group, the owner of WNWO-TV (NBC in Toledo, Ohio) announced today that retransmission consent negotiations with Buckeye Cable (“Buckeye”) have ended without the parties reaching an agreement. As a result, the failure of Buckeye to carry WNWO will continue for the foreseeable future.

“Although we very much wanted to reach agreement with Buckeye,” stated Barry Faber, Sinclair’s chief negotiator, “Buckeye was not willing to agree to what we believe, based on our negotiation of hundreds of similar agreements impacting numerous markets, including Toledo, to be fair and customary terms. While we are aware that thousands of former Buckeye subscribers have already switched video providers, we thought it was important to make this announcement so that their remaining subscribers were aware that WNWO and its great programming will not be coming back to Buckeye. This programming includes not only several hours a day of live, local news and popular syndicated programming like Judge Judy and Dr. Oz, but also top-notch NBC network programming, including the remainder of the Winter Olympics, and other highly-watched shows, many of which will begin airing new episodes next week.”

“We apologize to Buckeye’s subscribers for the inconvenience this has caused,” Mr. Faber continued. “While we are aware that Buckeye has been providing its subscribers with a monthly credit of twenty-four cents (\$0.24) as a result of the absence of WNWO, obviously this represents a mere fraction of the value of WNWO’s programming and is insulting not only to WNWO, but to Buckeye’s own subscribers. Our research indicates that better pricing and programming (including WNWO) is available from Buckeye competitors Dish Network, DirecTV and, for some people, AT&T U-verse, and we encourage Buckeye subscribers to find alternative means for receiving our station’s programming.

Buckeye subscribers have already been forced to miss the U.S. broadcast of the Winter Olympics and the premier of The Tonight Show starring Jimmy Fallon (which included and will continue to include an unprecedented lineup of superstar guests). A list of NBC shows which will not be seen on Buckeye and their season premier dates follows.

The Voice – February 24
The Blacklist – February 24
Chicago Fire – February 25

Revolution – February 26
Law & Order SVU – February 26
Parenthood – February 27
Parks & Recreation – February 27
Saturday Night Live – March 1

Buckeye subscribers wishing to discontinue their service can do so by calling Buckeye at (419) 724-9800. Dish Network can be reached at 1-800-823-4929. DirecTV can be reached at 1-855-802-3473. AT&T U-verse can be reached at 1-877-513-6394.

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