

How could this even be considered?

There is (or at least there WAS) very sound reasoning behind the Antitrust laws - see the split up of Ma Bell, and the advancements in communications technology and businesses that followed the introduction of competition in a former communications monopoly.

With this in mind, how could it be a good idea to go in the exact opposite direction by allowing the Internet & Cable giants to merge and virtually eliminate any real competition in many markets?

This merger cannot lead to anything good for consumers, nor will it lead anywhere good for the businesses in this industry. It's bad enough that the television and print media companies - as well as online content providers - have consolidated to an absurd degree, with no end in sight... but this merger of two monsters that are not only service providers (so they control access to content) but ALSO content providers (an almost unavoidable conflict of interests here) can only generate a short-term financial benefit (aka a cash-grab) by those with the structured incentives and stock-holdings in these companies.

Do not allow a small group to cause immeasurable harm just so they can reap a windfall from this deal.