



August 22, 2014

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Chairman Tom Wheeler
Commissioner Ajit Pai
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel
Commissioner Michael O’Rielly

Re: MB Docket No. 14-57, Applications of Comcast Corp. and Time Warner Cable Inc. for Consent to Transfer Control of Licenses and Authorizations

Dear Chairman Wheeler and Commissioners:

As President and CEO of the New England Sports Network (“NESN”), I write to express NESN’s support for the proposed transaction involving Comcast Corporation (“Comcast”) and Time Warner Cable Inc. (“TWC”).

NESN is owned by the Boston Red Sox and the Boston Bruins and was launched in 1984 as one of the first regional sports networks (“RSN”) in the country. We are committed to being a preeminent RSN. In addition to providing coverage of Red Sox and Bruins games, NESN produces and televises other local programs to provide subscribers with New England sports content that entertains and informs.

NESN and Comcast have a long-standing and successful relationship, even though NESN is a competitor of Comcast SportsNet (“CSN”). NESN is delivered to over four million homes throughout the six-state New England region, and nationally as NESN National. Many of those homes are a result of NESN’s carriage on Comcast, ensuring that all Comcast customers have access to our programming.

As our experience demonstrates, Comcast has a strong record of supporting independent sports networks—even those that compete with Comcast’s own CSN. Indeed, Comcast has never discriminated against NESN in favor of Comcast affiliated programming. On the contrary, Comcast is a good competitor and negotiates fairly with NESN as to both rates and carriage. This is exemplified by our most recent negotiations that resulted in a long-term carriage deal that is fair to both parties.



Given our experience, we believe that Comcast's transaction with Time Warner Cable will be a great development for independent sports networks and for New England sports fans. For these reasons, we fully support the Comcast-TWC transaction.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Sean P. McGrail". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Sean P. McGrail

President and CEO