

As Chair of the National Council of Negro Women, I thank you for the opportunity to share my views on the proposed merger between Comcast and Time Warner Cable.

Based on Comcast's strong track record on diversity and community outreach and initiatives, I believe that the public interest will be served by this transaction, and I urge the Commission to grant its approval.

For nearly 80 years, the National Council of Negro Women has worked to empower and advocate for black women and girls, as well as their communities and families. We promote education initiatives, and advocate for corporate best practices on diversity and hiring that create opportunities for our constituents. Comcast has been a leader in both these areas.

The company's Internet Essentials program is the gold standard for broadband adoption and has helped hundreds of thousands of low-income families get high speed Internet access at home. Educational opportunities simply cannot be equal in this country if poor children do not have ready access to the Internet - far too much learning has moved online for that. And Internet Essentials is critical to leveling the playing field for disadvantaged kids. I understand the transaction will bring this critical program to many new communities and neighborhoods, including critical areas like Los Angeles and New York, and I applaud this.

Comcast has also been a leader in minority hiring, contracting, and workforce practices. I have served as a member of its trail-blazing Joint Diversity Advisory Councils, which gives minority community leaders a direct seat at the table with the most senior company officials. I have seen up close the efforts to launch new independent channels to serve the African American community such as Magic Johnson's Aspire network. The company has been named to DiversityInc's Top 50 organizations the last two years. And its workforce is a remarkable 59% diverse overall - an achievement that holds whether you look at the company overall (59% diverse), leadership positions (46% diverse) or the Board (51% diverse).

Comcast is a good corporate citizen, a leader in broadband adoption and outreach, and a model for workplace diversity. In my opinion, expansion of this socially responsible approach to business is an unqualified public good.

Ingrid Saunders Jones