

LEE COUNTY NORTH CAROLINA

After the review of information regarding Comcast's acquisition of Time Warner Cable, formation of SpinCo and control over Charter Cable, Comcast will have monopoly control over cable television rates, service and availability throughout North Carolina which will adversely impact the State and specifically Lee County's residents and businesses.

Further, the North Carolina Attorney General has authority to evaluate the merger under Federal statutes and impose conditions limiting the anticompetitive (monopoly) practices which may be imposed by the merged entity upon North Carolinians and Lee County residents.

WHEREAS, Lee County, North Carolina ("County") has reviewed the elements of the proposed merger and determined that the merger will create a monopoly that poses a grave threat to NC consumers by its ability to control prices, content and availability.

WHEREAS, the concentration of horizontal and vertical aspects of the cable and media business by the merger will grant Comcast unprecedented ability and incentive to engage in anti-competitive behaviors fundamentally harmful to North Carolina residents and businesses;

WHEREAS, the merged Comcast would directly or indirectly control virtually all the North Carolina broadband market and cable TV market;

WHEREAS, the merger will consolidate control (limit) visual and electronic media content the public can access;

WHEREAS, the likelihood exists that certain types of content will be given special (or worse) treatment based on the provider's financial relationship with the merged entities;

WHEREAS, consumers face the prospect of higher prices to pay the \$45 billion merger acquisition cost;

WHEREAS, North Carolina consumer and business interests are not likely to be protected by the Federal government, but can be protected only by proactive behavior by the North Carolina Attorney General;

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Attorney General has authority to launch an investigation into the merger and ascertain the likely effects of the merger upon North Carolinians;

WHEREAS, the North Carolina Attorney General could use federal authority to review the financial and consumer aspects of the merger and use that evidence to seek conditions that limit the effects of the merger upon North Carolinians by requiring consumer protections and antimonopoly guarantees from the merged entity; and

WHEREAS, the Proposed Merger between Comcast and Time Warner Cable may place harm upon the residents and businesses of the County:

WHEREAS, The County finds that the proposed merger between Comcast and TWC and the new entity's control over Charter Cable does not serve the best interests of North Carolina residents and businesses; and

WHEREAS, The County finds that the State Attorney General has authority to investigate and evaluate the consequences of the proposed merger upon North Carolinians;

WHEREAS, The County finds that the North Carolina Attorney General has authority to implement safeguards to limit monopoly behavior by the merged entity;

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved by the Lee County Board of County Commissioners that:

The County is opposed to the proposed Comcast Time Warner Cable merger without adequate consumer protection conditions being placed on the merged entity.

The North Carolina Attorney General use his authority to direct Comcast to provide evidence that its merger with Time Warner Cable and subsequent control over Charter Cable serves the best interests of North Carolina and Lee County residents and businesses.

The North Carolina Attorney General use his authority to direct Comcast to provide equivalent bandwidth on the broadband network if and once the merger is complete for Lee County to be able to continue to stream it's PEG channels as it is doing today

The North Carolina Attorney General scrutinize the antitrust and monopoly implications of this merger and determine whether the merger will result in financial harms to North Carolina residents and businesses including those in Lee County;

The North Carolina Attorney General evaluate the antitrust and monopoly implications of this merger and determine whether the merger will result in the placement of limits upon electronic content available to North Carolina and Lee County residents and businesses.

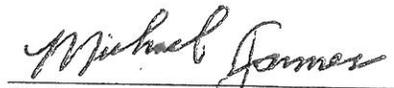
The North Carolina Attorney General study the antitrust and monopoly implications of this merger and determine whether the merger will result in the extension of service in areas not presently served by either Time Warner Cable or Charter Communications or the diminishment of service availability to North Carolina and Lee County residents and businesses.

Read, Adopted and Approved by the Lee County Board of County Commissioners this the 8th day of August 2014.

By:


Chairman

Attest:


Clerk