Federal Communications Commission 445 12th St., S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

News Media Information 202 / 418-0500 Internet: http://www.fcc.gov TTY: 1-888-835-5322

DA 14-441

Released: April 8, 2014

WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU SEEKS COMMENT ON PETITION BY MEDIACOM COMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION FOR DECLARATORY RULING CONCERNING INDEMNIFICATION CLAUSES IN POLE ATTACHMENT AGREEMENTS

WC Docket No. 14-52

Comment Date: May 8, 2014

Reply Comment Date: May 23, 2014

The Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) seeks comment on a petition filed by Mediacom Communications Corporation (Mediacom) on February 19, 2014. Mediacom requests that the Commission state in a declaratory ruling that, under Section 224 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, an indemnification clause in a pole attachment agreement between a cable operator attacher and a utility pole owner that imposes asymmetric and nonreciprocal indemnification liability for negligence on the part of the attaching party, is not a "just and reasonable" term and condition of attachment. Mediacom requests that the Commission issue a declaratory ruling to terminate a controversy and remove uncertainty in the context of Iowa state court tort litigation. 3

Pursuant to sections 1.415 and 1.419 of the Commission's rules, 47 CFR §§ 1.415, 1.419, interested parties may file comments and reply comments on or before the dates indicated above. Comments may be filed using the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS). *See Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings*, 63 FR 24121 (1998).

- Electronic Filers: Comments may be filed electronically using the Internet by accessing the ECFS: http://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/ecfs2/.
- Paper Filers: Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and one copy of each
 filing. If more than one docket or rulemaking number appears in the caption of this proceeding,
 filers must submit two additional copies for each additional docket or rulemaking number.

¹ Petition for Declaratory Ruling of Mediacom Communications Corporation (Mediacom), WC Docket No. 14-52 (filed Feb.19, 2014) (Petition); 47 C.F.R. § 1.2.

² See Petition at 1: 47 U.S.C. § 224(b)(1).

³ Petition at 1, n.3; Maribel Romero v. Interstate Power and Light, Interstate Power and Light v. MCC Iowa LLC, Iowa District Court for Johnson County, Case No. LACV 075505.

Filings can be sent by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail. All filings must be addressed to the Commission's Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission.

- All hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary must be delivered to FCC Headquarters at 445 12th St., SW, Room TW-A325, Washington, DC 20554. The filing hours are 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes and boxes must be disposed of before entering the building.
- Commercial overnight mail (other than U.S. Postal Service Express Mail and Priority Mail) must be sent to 9300 East Hampton Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743.
- U.S. Postal Service first-class, Express, and Priority mail must be addressed to 445 12th Street, SW, Washington DC 20554.

People with Disabilities: To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (Braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202-418-0530 (voice), 202-418-0432 (tty).

The proceeding this Notice initiates shall be treated as a "permit-but-disclose" proceeding in accordance with the Commission's *ex parte* rules. Persons making *ex parte* presentations must file a copy of any written presentation or a memorandum summarizing any oral presentation within two business days after the presentation. Persons making oral *ex parte* presentations are reminded that memoranda summarizing the presentation must (1) list all persons attending or otherwise participating in the meeting at which the *ex parte* presentation was made, and (2) summarize all data presented and arguments made during the presentation. If the presentation consisted in whole or in part of the presentation of data or arguments already reflected in the presenter's written comments, memoranda or other filings in the proceeding, the presenter may provide citations to such data or arguments in his or her prior comments, memoranda, or other filings (specifying the relevant page and/or paragraph numbers where such data or arguments can be found) in lieu of summarizing them in the memorandum. Documents shown or given to Commission staff during *ex parte* meetings are deemed to be written *ex parte* presentations and must be filed consistent with rule 1.1206(b). In proceedings governed by rule 1.49(f) or for which the Commission has made available a method of electronic filing, written *ex parte* presentations and memoranda summarizing oral *ex parte* presentations, and all attachments thereto, must

_

⁴ 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.1200 et seq.

be filed through the electronic comment filing system available for that proceeding, and must be filed in their native format (*e.g.*, .doc, .xml, .ppt, searchable .pdf). Participants in this proceeding should familiarize themselves with the Commission's *ex parte* rules.

For further information, please contact Jonathan Reel, Competition Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau at (202) 418-0637, or via email at jonathan.reel@fcc.gov.