



OFFICE OF
THE COMMISSIONER

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

November 14, 2007

Mr. Michael C. Taliaferro
Managing Editor
Warren Communications News, Inc.
2115 Ward Ct. NW
Washington, D.C. 20037

Dear Mr. Taliaferro,

We read with interest this morning's *Communications Daily* article, *November FCC Meeting to Focus on Cable Industry*. In this article you state that the figures you provided to the FCC "aren't well suited" to determining whether the 70% threshold of cable subscription rates in America has been met. We greatly appreciate your candor and thoroughness in clarifying the information you provided and upon which our Report and its conclusions are based. The Video Competition Report we send to Congress each year is one of the most important Reports this Commission produces, and we strive to ensure the accuracy of the information.

We wanted to take this opportunity to ensure that at least these two Commissioners are indeed seeking the trustworthiness, truthfulness, and viability of the data in question. Today's article quotes an FCC official as saying that Commissioners would be "unlikely to seek out data on their own..." We would like to take this opportunity to formally request any and all information regarding the data you provided, including but not limited to the "two dozen footnotes" or "numerous caveats" to the statistics which you referenced.

As you are aware, over the past three years, our Report has found that cable subscribership hovers around 60%. With the increase in competition from satellite and phone companies, most large cable operators report a decline in subscribership. Thus, it was surprising to learn that Warren Communications reported a 71.4% subscribership rate this year, especially considering the two other major independent research outlets found rates at 61.1% (Nielsen) and 58.1% (Kagan).

It is our hope that in the spirit of transparency and openness regarding our decision-making you will indeed file this information in the record (Docket # 06-189) and be available for further inquiries after we have had an opportunity to review this.

Sincerely,



Commissioner Deborah Taylor Tate
Federal Communications Commission



Commissioner Robert McDowell
Federal Communications Commission