



OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

May 10, 2010

The Honorable Rick Boucher
Chairman
Subcommittee on Communications, Technology
and the Internet
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
316 Ford House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Boucher:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Commission's 2010 Quadrennial Review of its broadcast ownership rules and policies. I appreciate hearing from you on this important issue, and understand your concern about the delays in addressing the newspaper/broadcast cross-ownership rule.

I, too, believe that the Commission's review of its broadcast ownership rules and policies, including the newspaper/broadcast cross-ownership rule, should be conducted in a timely manner. While the Commission has made prior findings related to the newspaper/broadcast cross-ownership rule, I want to invite your attention to some compelling reasons for the Commission to evaluate each of the broadcast ownership rules concurrently in a single proceeding.

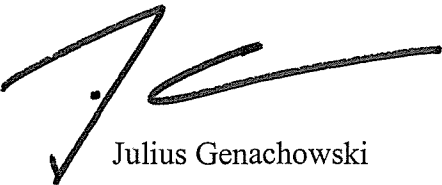
The Commission's staff has made a strong case that local broadcast ownership rules are interrelated and are designed in aggregate to promote competition, localism, and diversity in the local media marketplace. A change to one local ownership rule could affect the retention, modification, or elimination of another rule. I am hopeful that a comprehensive evaluation of the ownership rules will facilitate consistent analysis of policy questions that are common to a number of the rules, and enable the Commission to avoid sequential decisionmaking that could predetermine or preclude particular approaches in other areas.

I would note, as well, that a majority of the current Commissioners did not participate in the 2002 *Biennial Review* or the 2006 *Quadrennial Review* of the broadcast ownership rules. By allowing the newer Commissioners an opportunity to consider the broadcast ownership rules – including the newspaper/broadcast cross-ownership rule – holistically, I am confident that this Commission can craft an ownership regulatory regime that will address the evolving media landscape and resist weaknesses that marred previous reviews. Even taking this broader tack, it is my intention for the Commission to conduct its work expeditiously and conclude the 2010 Review as early as possible.

Page 2—The Honorable Rick Boucher

I look forward to working with you and other Members of Congress as the Commission reviews its broadcast ownership rules and policies. If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Handwritten signature of Julius Genachowski, consisting of a stylized 'J' followed by a horizontal line.

Julius Genachowski



OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

May 10, 2010

The Honorable Cliff Stearns
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Communications, Technology
and the Internet
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
2370 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Stearns:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Commission's 2010 Quadrennial Review of its broadcast ownership rules and policies. I appreciate hearing from you on this important issue, and understand your concern about the delays in addressing the newspaper/broadcast cross-ownership rule.

I, too, believe that the Commission's review of its broadcast ownership rules and policies, including the newspaper/broadcast cross-ownership rule, should be conducted in a timely manner. While the Commission has made prior findings related to the newspaper/broadcast cross-ownership rule, I want to invite your attention to some compelling reasons for the Commission to evaluate each of the broadcast ownership rules concurrently in a single proceeding.

The Commission's staff has made a strong case that local broadcast ownership rules are interrelated and are designed in aggregate to promote competition, localism, and diversity in the local media marketplace. A change to one local ownership rule could affect the retention, modification, or elimination of another rule. I am hopeful that a comprehensive evaluation of the ownership rules will facilitate consistent analysis of policy questions that are common to a number of the rules, and enable the Commission to avoid sequential decisionmaking that could predetermine or preclude particular approaches in other areas.

I would note, as well, that a majority of the current Commissioners did not participate in the 2002 *Biennial Review* or the 2006 *Quadrennial Review* of the broadcast ownership rules. By allowing the newer Commissioners an opportunity to consider the broadcast ownership rules – including the newspaper/broadcast cross-ownership rule – holistically, I am confident that this Commission can craft an ownership regulatory regime that will address the evolving media landscape and resist weaknesses that marred previous reviews. Even taking this broader tack, it is my intention for the Commission to conduct its work expeditiously and conclude the 2010 Review as early as possible.

Page 2—The Honorable Cliff Stearns

I look forward to working with you and other Members of Congress as the Commission reviews its broadcast ownership rules and policies. If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized initial 'J' followed by a horizontal line that curves slightly upwards at the end.

Julius Genachowski