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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515
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Julius Genachowski
Chairman
Federal Communication Commission
445 Twelfth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

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Chairman Genachowski,

I write to express my support for the timely conclusion of your current review of the proposed Comcast/General Electric ("GE") joint venture regarding NBC Universal ("NBCU"). As a former investment and financial advisor I understand that this proposed venture should and is receiving a careful analysis at your Commission, but it must be clear that any further delay to this joint venture will hinder a critical and potential growth to the economic futures of these three vital American companies. Furthermore, I applaud the public commitments these companies have made to meet the needs of viewers and to ensure that the constituents of this country will receive important benefits from this joint venture. Specifically, Comcast and NBCU have made a strong commitment to minority diversity.

As a representative of a district with a diverse constituency, I am sensitive to the recent efforts made by Comcast and NBCU to create a more diverse programming schedule targeted towards minority based viewers. With a district consisting of a large Hispanic community, it is important that any joint venture provides my constituents, along with those of my colleagues, with a broad range of programming. To provide that diverse programming, Comcast and NBCU have committed to increase supplier diversity in the procurement of goods and services, as well as expand the range of On Demand options to include Spanish language programming. I am supportive of this commitment and believe that these two organizations will live up to these goals. Unfortunately, many of these commitments cannot be realized until after the joint venture is complete.

Furthermore, all parties involved share a greater responsibility in ensuring minorities are represented in the executive and decision making levels of business. Currently, Hispanics make up less than 5 percent of managers and executive directors and only 2 percent of Vice Presidents in Comcast. With that said, Comcast and NBCU has provided a detailed workforce recruitment and career development commitment plan to expand the role Hispanics play in their companies. However, like the expansion of a diverse programming selection and an increase in supplier diversity, minorities will not have the opportunity to move ahead in these two companies until the joint venture is complete.

I would like to conclude by saying the in-depth review by the Commission of this joint venture is critical. Nevertheless, I believe a timely conclusion is central to the economic futures of these companies and more so, to the diversification of this industry. I have every confidence that the FCC will conduct a serious and thoughtful review of this important transaction and structure a final order that will make binding these important commitments.

Sincerely,



Loretta Sanchez
Member of Congress