

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

November 2, 2011

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI CHAIRMAN

> The Honorable Charles Schumer United States Senate 313 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Schumer:

Thank you for your letter expressing concern about the proposed merger of PAETEC Holding Corporation and Windstream Corporation. Your views are very important and will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

The Commission placed the PAETEC-Windstream applications on Public Notice on September 15, 2011. The comment cycle ended October 6, 2011. I understand your concern about the potential effect of this transaction on important services in New York and throughout the country, and I want to assure you that the Commission will examine the record very carefully to weigh the benefits and harms to the public interest that might result from the merger.

I appreciate your interest in this matter. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

Julius Genachowski