



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

October 10, 2014

The Honorable Anna Eshoo
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Communications and Technology
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
241 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Eshoo:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Commission's network non-duplication and syndicated exclusivity rules. I appreciate hearing your views on this matter. Your letter has been entered into the record for this proceeding and will be taken into consideration.

As you indicate, many questions remain regarding how modification or elimination of the rules would affect the video marketplace. The Commission first sought comment on this issue in 2005 as part of a Petition for Rulemaking from the American Cable Association. The record in that proceeding did not provide a sufficient basis for the Commission to make an informed decision as to whether the exclusivity rules are still necessary.

That is why, as part of the March 31, 2014, *Retransmission Consent Report and Order*, the Commission issued the *Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (FNPRM)* referenced in your letter to seek additional comment to complete the record. In particular, the *FNPRM* sought comment on, among other issues, how elimination or modification of the rules would affect both the video marketplace as a whole, as well as the impact on the various stakeholders.

A robust record on these issues will allow the Commission to make an informed decision as to whether or not the exclusivity rules are still necessary in light of the rapidly evolving video marketplace. Please be assured that the Commission staff is carefully evaluating the comments and reply comments that were filed earlier this summer, and we will endeavor to incorporate the GAO Report into the record upon its timely completion.

I appreciate both your thoughtful comments and the opportunity to respond to them.

Sincerely,

Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

October 10, 2014

The Honorable Henry Waxman
Ranking Member
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
2204 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Waxman:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Commission's network non-duplication and syndicated exclusivity rules. I appreciate hearing your views on this matter. Your letter has been entered into the record for this proceeding and will be taken into consideration.

As you indicate, many questions remain regarding how modification or elimination of the rules would affect the video marketplace. The Commission first sought comment on this issue in 2005 as part of a Petition for Rulemaking from the American Cable Association. The record in that proceeding did not provide a sufficient basis for the Commission to make an informed decision as to whether the exclusivity rules are still necessary.

That is why, as part of the March 31, 2014, *Retransmission Consent Report and Order*, the Commission issued the *Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (FNPRM)* referenced in your letter to seek additional comment to complete the record. In particular, the *FNPRM* sought comment on, among other issues, how elimination or modification of the rules would affect both the video marketplace as a whole, as well as the impact on the various stakeholders.

A robust record on these issues will allow the Commission to make an informed decision as to whether or not the exclusivity rules are still necessary in light of the rapidly evolving video marketplace. Please be assured that the Commission staff is carefully evaluating the comments and reply comments that were filed earlier this summer, and we will endeavor to incorporate the GAO Report into the record upon its timely completion.

I appreciate both your thoughtful comments and the opportunity to respond to them.

Sincerely,

Tom Wheeler



OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

October 10, 2014

The Honorable Greg Walden
Chairman
Subcommittee on Communications and Technology
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Walden:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Commission's network non-duplication and syndicated exclusivity rules. I appreciate hearing your views on this matter. Your letter has been entered into the record for this proceeding and will be taken into consideration.

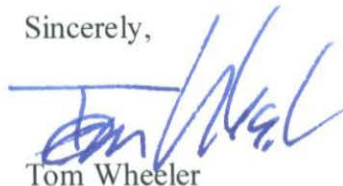
As you indicate, many questions remain regarding how modification or elimination of the rules would affect the video marketplace. The Commission first sought comment on this issue in 2005 as part of a Petition for Rulemaking from the American Cable Association. The record in that proceeding did not provide a sufficient basis for the Commission to make an informed decision as to whether the exclusivity rules are still necessary.

That is why, as part of the March 31, 2014, *Retransmission Consent Report and Order*, the Commission issued the *Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (FNPRM)* referenced in your letter to seek additional comment to complete the record. In particular, the *FNPRM* sought comment on, among other issues, how elimination or modification of the rules would affect both the video marketplace as a whole, as well as the impact on the various stakeholders.

A robust record on these issues will allow the Commission to make an informed decision as to whether or not the exclusivity rules are still necessary in light of the rapidly evolving video marketplace. Please be assured that the Commission staff is carefully evaluating the comments and reply comments that were filed earlier this summer, and we will endeavor to incorporate the GAO Report into the record upon its timely completion.

I appreciate both your thoughtful comments and the opportunity to respond to them.

Sincerely,



Tom Wheeler



OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

October 10, 2014

The Honorable Fred Upton
Chairman
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Upton:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Commission's network non-duplication and syndicated exclusivity rules. I appreciate hearing your views on this matter. Your letter has been entered into the record for this proceeding and will be taken into consideration.

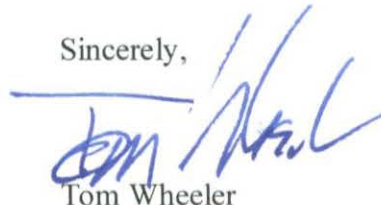
As you indicate, many questions remain regarding how modification or elimination of the rules would affect the video marketplace. The Commission first sought comment on this issue in 2005 as part of a Petition for Rulemaking from the American Cable Association. The record in that proceeding did not provide a sufficient basis for the Commission to make an informed decision as to whether the exclusivity rules are still necessary.

That is why, as part of the March 31, 2014, *Retransmission Consent Report and Order*, the Commission issued the *Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (FNPRM)* referenced in your letter to seek additional comment to complete the record. In particular, the *FNPRM* sought comment on, among other issues, how elimination or modification of the rules would affect both the video marketplace as a whole, as well as the impact on the various stakeholders.

A robust record on these issues will allow the Commission to make an informed decision as to whether or not the exclusivity rules are still necessary in light of the rapidly evolving video marketplace. Please be assured that the Commission staff is carefully evaluating the comments and reply comments that were filed earlier this summer, and we will endeavor to incorporate the GAO Report into the record upon its timely completion.

I appreciate both your thoughtful comments and the opportunity to respond to them.

Sincerely,



Tom Wheeler