



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

February 11, 2015

The Honorable Paul Gosar
U.S. House of Representatives
504 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Gosar:

Thank you for your letter expressing support for access to video programming, including programming specific to rural communities. I appreciate hearing your views.

This issue has been raised by commenters in the context of the pending transactions between Comcast and Time Warner Cable, and AT&T and DirecTV. With regard to your specific concern about rural-focused programming, I note that RFD-TV, a Nebraska-based digital cable and satellite television channel, along with many of its viewers, have filed comments in both of the pending proceedings. Please be assured that the views of RFD-TV and its viewers will be given careful consideration as the staff reviews the record in the proceedings.

You also indicate in your letter that the video marketplace is evolving and shifting with more content provided through broadband connections. Like you, I recognize that having access to broadband is a challenge for many rural Americans. In our recent 2015 Broadband Progress Report, adopted on January 29, 2015, the Commission found that broadband deployment is not keeping pace. The Commission indicated that over half of rural Americans lack access to the updated broadband benchmark speeds of 25 megabits per second (Mbps) for downloads and 3 Mbps for uploads, whereas only eight percent of urban Americans lack access to the same benchmark speeds. Based on the number of unserved Americans and for other reasons, the Commission concluded that broadband is not being deployed in a reasonable and timely fashion. The Commission recognized that while we have made progress, more work needs to be done.

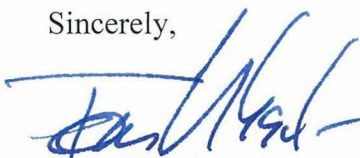
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I am hopeful that these recent actions will help deliver greater competition and more choice for consumers. In addition, in conjunction with the release of the 2015 Broadband Progress Report, we issued a Notice of Inquiry that sought comment on what additional steps the Commission can take to accelerate broadband deployment, especially in rural areas.

Please be assured the Commission will continue to keep rural Americans' needs in mind as it moves ahead with its work. I appreciate hearing directly from you on the issues that face your constituents and hope to continue a dialogue with you.

Sincerely,



Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

February 11, 2015

The Honorable Tim Huelskamp
U.S. House of Representatives
129 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Huelskamp:

Thank you for your letter expressing support for access to video programming, including programming specific to rural communities. I appreciate hearing your views.

This issue has been raised by commenters in the context of the pending transactions between Comcast and Time Warner Cable, and AT&T and DirecTV. With regard to your specific concern about rural-focused programming, I note that RFD-TV, a Nebraska-based digital cable and satellite television channel, along with many of its viewers, have filed comments in both of the pending proceedings. Please be assured that the views of RFD-TV and its viewers will be given careful consideration as the staff reviews the record in the proceedings.

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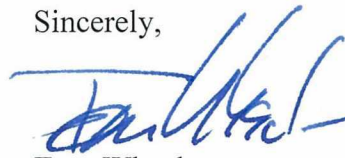
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Sincerely,

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Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

February 11, 2015

The Honorable Dave Loebsack
U.S. House of Representatives
1527 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Loebsack:

Thank you for your letter expressing support for access to video programming, including programming specific to rural communities. I appreciate hearing your views.

This issue has been raised by commenters in the context of the pending transactions between Comcast and Time Warner Cable, and AT&T and DirecTV. With regard to your specific concern about rural-focused programming, I note that RFD-TV, a Nebraska-based digital cable and satellite television channel, along with many of its viewers, have filed comments in both of the pending proceedings. Please be assured that the views of RFD-TV and its viewers will be given careful consideration as the staff reviews the record in the proceedings.

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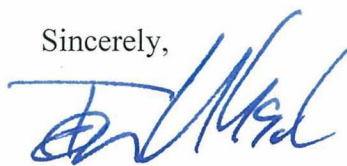
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Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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February 11, 2015

The Honorable Cynthia M. Lummis
U.S. House of Representatives
113 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Lummis:

Thank you for your letter expressing support for access to video programming, including programming specific to rural communities. I appreciate hearing your views.

This issue has been raised by commenters in the context of the pending transactions between Comcast and Time Warner Cable, and AT&T and DirecTV. With regard to your specific concern about rural-focused programming, I note that RFD-TV, a Nebraska-based digital cable and satellite television channel, along with many of its viewers, have filed comments in both of the pending proceedings. Please be assured that the views of RFD-TV and its viewers will be given careful consideration as the staff reviews the record in the proceedings.

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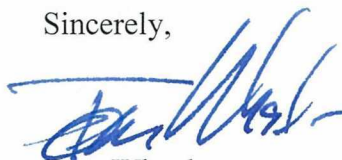
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Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

February 11, 2015

The Honorable Rick Nolan
U.S. House of Representatives
2447 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Nolan:

Thank you for your letter expressing support for access to video programming, including programming specific to rural communities. I appreciate hearing your views.

This issue has been raised by commenters in the context of the pending transactions between Comcast and Time Warner Cable, and AT&T and DirecTV. With regard to your specific concern about rural-focused programming, I note that RFD-TV, a Nebraska-based digital cable and satellite television channel, along with many of its viewers, have filed comments in both of the pending proceedings. Please be assured that the views of RFD-TV and its viewers will be given careful consideration as the staff reviews the record in the proceedings.

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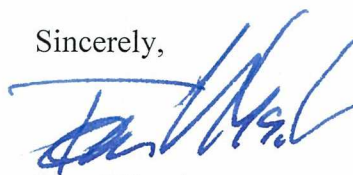
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Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
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OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

February 11, 2015

The Honorable Collin C. Peterson
U.S. House of Representatives
2109 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Peterson:

Thank you for your letter expressing support for access to video programming, including programming specific to rural communities. I appreciate hearing your views.

This issue has been raised by commenters in the context of the pending transactions between Comcast and Time Warner Cable, and AT&T and DirecTV. With regard to your specific concern about rural-focused programming, I note that RFD-TV, a Nebraska-based digital cable and satellite television channel, along with many of its viewers, have filed comments in both of the pending proceedings. Please be assured that the views of RFD-TV and its viewers will be given careful consideration as the staff reviews the record in the proceedings.

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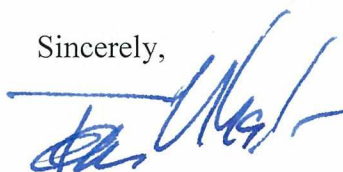
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Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

February 11, 2015

The Honorable Martha Roby
U.S. House of Representatives
428 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Roby:

Thank you for your letter expressing support for access to video programming, including programming specific to rural communities. I appreciate hearing your views.

This issue has been raised by commenters in the context of the pending transactions between Comcast and Time Warner Cable, and AT&T and DirecTV. With regard to your specific concern about rural-focused programming, I note that RFD-TV, a Nebraska-based digital cable and satellite television channel, along with many of its viewers, have filed comments in both of the pending proceedings. Please be assured that the views of RFD-TV and its viewers will be given careful consideration as the staff reviews the record in the proceedings.

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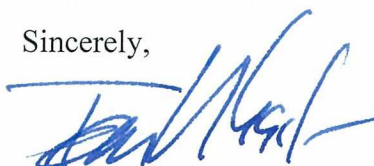
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Tom Wheeler



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

February 11, 2015

The Honorable Mike D. Rogers
U.S. House of Representatives
324 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Rogers:

Thank you for your letter expressing support for access to video programming, including programming specific to rural communities. I appreciate hearing your views.

This issue has been raised by commenters in the context of the pending transactions between Comcast and Time Warner Cable, and AT&T and DirecTV. With regard to your specific concern about rural-focused programming, I note that RFD-TV, a Nebraska-based digital cable and satellite television channel, along with many of its viewers, have filed comments in both of the pending proceedings. Please be assured that the views of RFD-TV and its viewers will be given careful consideration as the staff reviews the record in the proceedings.

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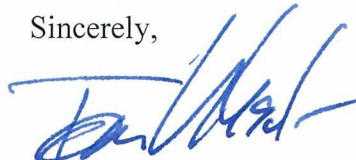
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Tom Wheeler



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OFFICE OF
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February 11, 2015

The Honorable Terri A. Sewell
U.S. House of Representatives
1133 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Sewell:

Thank you for your letter expressing support for access to video programming, including programming specific to rural communities. I appreciate hearing your views.

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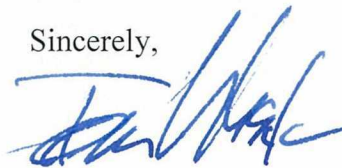
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Tom Wheeler