



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

January 3, 2020

The Honorable Steven M. Palazzo
U.S. House of Representatives
2349 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Palazzo:

Thank you for your letter regarding the pending Retransmission Consent Complaint and Petition for Declaratory Ruling filed by C Spire Fiber regarding the carriage of WLOX in Diamondhead, Mississippi. The filing seeks two actions by the Commission: (1) to address the allegations of good faith negotiation violations under the Commission's retransmission consent rules and (2) to issue a Declaratory Ruling to clarify that all of a TV station's broadcast streams are considered to be "in-DMA (or 'local') for retransmission consent purposes when that TV station's market is modified by the Commission to include additional communities. The FCC's Media Bureau issued a Public Notice on June 20, 2019, seeking comment on the issues raised in the Declaratory Ruling request. The record closed on August 12, 2019, and the matter is currently under consideration by Commission staff.

It is important to note that C Spire Fiber's filing is considered "restricted" under our *ex parte* rules, and as a result, I am unfortunately unable to discuss the merits. Commission staff will provide your letter and this response to all parties to the proceeding in accordance with our *ex parte* rules.

Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ajit V. Pai".

Ajit V. Pai