

**From:** Kunin, Lisa [Lisa.Kunin@state.vt.us]

**Sent:** Thursday, August 21, 2014 12:37 PM

**To:** Weinstein, David (Sanders); patricia.coates@mail.house.gov; john\_dowd@leahy.senate.gov

**Subject:** Governor's Letter to the FCC

**Attachments:** SGOV-Copier14082111160.pdf

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up

**Flag Status:** Completed

JP, David and Tricia,

Attached please find the Governor's letter to the Federal Communications Commission regarding the proposed Comcast-Time Warner Cable merger. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Regards,

Lisa

Lisa Kunin

Executive Assistant to the Governor

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PETER SHUMLIN  
Governor



State of Vermont  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

August 20, 2014

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Office of the Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Room TW-A325  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: MB Docket No. 14-57

Dear Ms. Dortch:

I write today in support of approval by the Commission of the proposed Comcast-Time Warner Cable transaction.

Comcast began operating in Vermont in 2006 when it acquired the Adelphia Cable system. Vermont had experienced regulatory difficulties with Adelphia and the state was initially wary of the ambitious proposals made by Comcast as successor in interest to Adelphia. Accordingly, the state set high standards for Comcast and we held them to those standards. Among the conditions imposed Comcast was an obligation to expand broadband to some of our most rural areas. Eight years later, I am pleased to report that Comcast has delivered on the promise and has invested nearly \$128 million in our state. This money has extended high speed infrastructure from our region's population hub in Burlington, to Brattleboro in the south and to Newport in the north.

That sort of investment allows our residents a greater stake in the global economy. In the 21<sup>st</sup> century, the Internet connects Vermonters to jobs, healthcare information, and education they need to succeed within their communities and around the world. This infrastructure, combined with Comcast's low-income broadband adoption program, Internet Essentials, will help further close the Digital Divide.

I have treated broadband service with an all-of-the-above approach, working with many private carriers, including Comcast, to empower all of Vermont's residents to access opportunities and achieve, no matter if they are rich or poor, urban or rural. This is key to expanding economic growth for all Vermonters.

I look forward to Comcast's continued investment in my state and expect that your approval of this transaction would enhance Comcast's commitment to continue working to bring services to low-income and rural Americans.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Shumlin".

Peter Shumlin  
Governor