

Town of Williamstown Massachusetts

Municipal Building
31 North Street
Williamstown, MA 01267
www.williamstown.net



OFFICE OF
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Jane B. Allen, Chair
413-458-3500
FAX 413-458-4839

April 15, 2009

Catrice C. Williams, Secretary
Department of Telecommunications and Cable
Two South Station, 4th Floor
Boston, MA 02110

Dear Ms. Williams,

At its meeting on April 13, the Williamstown Board of Selectmen voted unanimously to send a letter to the Department of Telecommunications and Cable expressing the Board's opposition to Verizon's request to amend Form 500 to eliminate the requirement that cable licensees report their total number of subscribers.

This information is extremely important to Williamstown because, according to contract, the town's public access station, Willinet, receives funding from the local cable company, Time Warner, based on the total number of subscribers in Williamstown. Form 500 gives the town access to that information and, thus, a means of validating the amount of funding received from the cable company. We also appreciate the fact that Form 500 provides information on the number and nature of complaints and how efficiently and effectively they are addressed.

Thank you for informing us of this request and for your consideration of our concern.

Sincerely,

Jane B. Allen, Chair

cc: Peter Fohlin, Town Manager
Anne Skinner, Chair, Cable Advisory Committee
Deb Dane, Executive Director, Willinet