



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
OFFICE OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND BUSINESS REGULATION

**DEPARTMENT OF
TELECOMMUNICATIONS & ENERGY
Cable Television Division**

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In the matter of:)
)
AT&T CSC, Inc.,)
AT&T Corp., and)
AT&T Comcast Corporation)
)
Appellants)
)
v.)
)
Board of Selectmen of the)
Town of Westford)
)
Appellee)
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Docket No. CTV 02-5

Date Issued: February 11, 2003

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE

On October 31, 2002, the Cable Television Division (“Cable Division”) of the Department of Telecommunications and Energy issued an Order finding that the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Westford (“Westford”) unreasonably withheld consent to an application for change of control of the Cable Television Renewal License (“License”) from AT&T Corp. to Comcast Corporation.¹ AT&T CSC, Inc., et al. v. Board of Selectmen of the Town of Westford, CTV 02-5 (Order on Motions for Reconsideration) (Oct 31, 2002). The

¹ Upon consummating the merger between AT&T Broadband and Comcast Corporation, the newly created entity was named Comcast Corporation rather than AT&T Comcast Corporation as originally planned. The name change does not affect the ultimate control of the license at issue.

Cable Division ordered that Westford grant consent to the License transfer application. Id. As of the date of this Order, Westford has not complied with the Cable Division's Order.²

Massachusetts law establishes that the Cable Division has jurisdiction to hear appeals from cable operators who are aggrieved by an issuing authority's decision to withhold consent to a license transfer application. G.L. c. 166A, § 14. After appropriate review, the Cable Division shall approve or disapprove of the action taken by the issuing authority, and if the Cable Division disapproves, shall order the issuing authority to conform with the decision. Id. Section 14 also provides a mechanism by which the Cable Division is able to take action to enforce decisions with respect to licensing issues when issuing authorities fail to comply with lawful orders. Id. Specifically, "if the issuing authority fails to ... perform any other disciplinary act when lawfully ordered so to do by the [Cable] Division upon appeal or otherwise, within such reasonable time as it may prescribe, the [Cable] Division may itself ... perform such act, with the same force and effect as if issued or performed by the issuing authority." Id.

Therefore, the Cable Division directs Westford to show cause as to why it has not complied with the Cable Division's Order and granted approval to the License transfer application. If Westford fails to show cause within ten days, the Cable Division will approve the License transfer application, and as such transfer control of the License from AT&T Corp. to Comcast Corporation.

² The period for appealing the Cable Division's decision has also expired.
See G.L. c. 166A, § 2, as most recently amended by St. 1997, c. 164, § 273.

Accordingly, it is hereby:

ORDERED: No later than Friday, February 21, 2003, Westford must show cause as to why it has not yet complied with the Cable Division's lawful decision and granted the License transfer application.

By Order of the
Department of Telecommunications and Energy
Cable Television Division

/s/ Alicia C. Matthews
Alicia C. Matthews
Director