

## LAW OFFICE OF ALAN D. MANDL 90 GLEZEN LANE WAYLAND, MA 01778

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December 28, 2017

Board of Selectmen Town Clerk Holland Cable Commission Holland Town Hall 27 Sturbridge Road Holland, MA 01521

Dear Municipal Officials:

I am writing on behalf of Cox Communications ("Cox" or the "Company").

On December 4, 2017, the Company filed for Department of Telecommunications and Cable ("DTC") review proposed rates for basic cable service and equipment and installation charges. A copy of this rate filing was emailed to the Board of Selectmen at the time of filing. In this filing, Cox has proposed to increase its Basic Cable Service Rate from \$11.11 to \$19.50 (inclusive of the Broadcast Surcharge), still well below its maximum permitted rate. \(^1\)

The Company is seeking your assistance in assuring that Holland residents receive notice of this rate filing through as many channels as are possible. The DTC will direct Cox to arrange for publication of a public hearing notice in a newspaper (it has run in the Worcester Telegram. & Gazette) Also, it will direct the Company to do what it can to arrange for the cablecasting of the public hearing notice by the Holland Cable Commission.

At the Company's most recent rate hearing, it informed the DTC that while it tried to arrange for cablecasting of the public hearing notice, its efforts were unsuccessful. The DTC Staff inquired whether Cox could post the public hearing notice on the Town's principal official bulletin board at Town Hall.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Over a number of years since 2000, the Company has charged less than the Maximum Permitted Rate under the Federal Communications Commission rate methodology administered by the DTC.

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Cox would like to improve its communications with the Holland Cable Commission in order to better assure that a rate hearing public hearing notice gets cablecast. It welcomes your suggestions on what steps Cox should take.

Also, would the Town be able to post the public hearing notice on the principal official bulletin board in Town Hall or permit the Company to do so?

The Company also would like your input on whether a hearing notice would reach more Holland residents if it were published in the Springfield Republican rather than the Worcester Telegram and Gazette.

If the Town has any questions regarding these requests on behalf of Cox, please contact me. Thank you for your assistance.

Very truly yours,

Alan D. Mandl