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Town of Ludlow, Massachusetts MASS. DEPT OF Office of the Board of Selectment TELECOMMUNICATIONS & CABLE

October 29, 2010

Catrice Williams, Secretary MA Department of Telecommunications & Cable 100 Washington Street, Suite 820 Boston, MA 02118-6500

Dear Ms Williams:

The Board of Selectmen of the Town of Ludlow, in their capacity as cable television renewal license Issuing Authority, voted the grant of a renewal license to Charter Communications, effective September 17, 2010, a copy of which is enclosed.

Pursuant to Section 3.06 of 207 Code of Massachusetts Regulations, this letter will serve as the Issuing Authority written public statement reporting the license grant and the reasons for it. The Issuing Authority states as reasons for the grant that it found that the Licensee, among other things, substantially complied with the renewal criteria as set forth in the provisions of 47 U.S.C. § 546©(1)(A) through (D) and 207 CMR 3.06, particularly concerning financial, legal and technical ability and the reasonableness of the renewal.

Please accept this License and statement for the Departments files as applicable. Thank you for your consideration. If you any questions or concerns, please contact the Board of Selectmen's Office at 413 583 5600, ext 201.

Sincerely,

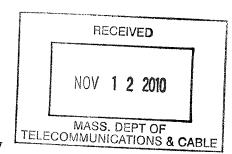
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

William E Rooney

Chairman

enclosure

cc: T. Cohan, Charter Atty William August



TOWN OF LUDLOW

COMMONWEALTH of MASSACHUSETTS

RENEWAL CABLE TELEVISION LICENSE

GRANTED TO

CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS ENTERTAINMENT I, DST l/k/a

Charter Communications

1	DEFINITION OF TERMS	8
1.1	Terms	8
2	GRANT OF FRANCHISE	10
2.1	Grant	10
2.2	Term	10
2.3	Franchise Requirements For Other Franchise Holders.	10
2.4	Police Powers and Conflicts with Franchise	11
2.5	Removal or Abandonment	11
2.6	Cable System Franchise Required	11
2.7	Cable Advisory Committee	11
3	FRANCHISE RENEWAL	12
3.1	Procedures for Renewal	12
4	INDEMNIFICATION AND INSURANCE	13
4.1	Indemnification	13
4.2	Insurance	13
4.3	4.3 Performance Bond	14
5	SUBSCRIBER RIGHTS AND CONSUMER PROTECTION	15
5.1	Customer Service Hours and Telephone Response Service	15
5.2	Billing Practices Information And Procedures	15
5.3	Notification Of Rates And Charges	15
5.4	Disconnection and Termination Of Cable Services	15
5.5	F.C.C. Customer Service	16
5.6	Employee And Agent Identification Cards	16
5.7	Protection Of Subscribers Privacy	16
5.8	Equal Employment Opportunity	16
5.9	No Discrimination.	16

5.10	Initial Installation and Service Call Procedures in Wired Areas	16
5.11	Subscriber Solicitation Procedures	17
5.12	Response to Service Calls and Service Complaints	17
5.13	Complaint Resolution Procedures	18
5.14	Change of Service	18
5.15	Protection of Subscribers Privacy	18
5.16 and Pa	Remote Control Devices, Converters/Receivers, VCR/DVD/Cable Compatibility, A/B Switch, arental Control	, 19
5.17	Offices and Phone	19
5.18	Notification of Service Procedures	19
5.19	Polling by Cable	20
5.20	Information With Respect To Viewing Habits and Subscription.	20
5.21	Subscriber's Right to Inspect and Verify Information.	20
5.22	Voluntary Disconnection of Service	20
5.23	Monitoring.	20
6 5	SERVICE AVAILABILITY	22
6.1	Service Area	22
6.2	Standard Drops	22
6.3	New Development Underground	22
6.4	Commercial Establishments	23
6.5	Leased Access	23
6.6	Inspections	23
7 C	ONSTRUCTION AND TECHNICAL STANDARDS	24
7.1	Compliance with Codes	24
7.2	Construction Standards and Requirements	24
7.3	Safety	25

7.5	Performance Monitoring	25
7.6	Performance Evaluations.	25
8	CONDITIONS ON STREET OCCUPANCY	26
8.1	General Conditions	26
8.2	Underground Construction	26
8.3	Permits	26
8.4	System Construction	26
8.5	Restoration of Streets	26
8.6	Removal in Emergency	27
8.7	Tree Trimming	27
8.8	Relocation for the Issuing Authority	27
8.9	Relocation for a Third Party	27
8.10	Reimbursement of Costs	27
8.11	Emergency Use	27
8.12	Private Property	28
8.13	Reservation of Rights	28
8.14	Subscriber Network	28
8.15	Service Interruptions	28
9 !	RATES, CHARGES AND PROGRAMMING	29
9.1	Rate Regulation	29
9.2	Continuity of Service	29
9.3	Credits For Service Interruption	29
9.4	Publication And Non-Discrimination	29
9.5	Senior Citizen Discount	29
10 F	FRANCHISE FEE	30
10.1	Amount of Fee	30

10.3	Other Payment Obligations and Exclusions	30
10.4	Accord and Satisfaction	30
10.5	Audit and Limitation on Recovery	31
10.6	Affiliates Use of System	31
11	TRANSFER OF FRANCHISE	32
11.1	Franchise Transfer	32
11.2	Transfer to Affiliates	32
12	RECORDS, REPORTS, TESTS AND MAPS	33
12.1	Reports Required	33
12.2	Records Required	33
12.3	Inspection of Records	33
12.4	Annual Performance Tests	33
12.5	Subscriber Complaint Report	33
12.6	Service Interruption Report	34
12.7	Quality of Service	34
12.8	Additional Information	34
13	COMMUNITY PROGRAMMING	35
13.1	Service to Schools and Buildings	35
13.2	Limitations on Use	35
13.3	Public, Educational and Government Access Channels	35
13.4	Public, Educational And Governmental Access Equipment/ Facilities Fund And Annual Grant	36
13.5	Equipment Ownership And Maintenance	37
13.6	Editorial Control	37
13.7	Access Coordinator/Designee	37
14 E	ENFORCEMENT OR REVOCATION	38
14.1	Determination Of Breach	38

14.2	Revocation Of Renewal License	38
14.3	Notice of Legal Action	39
14.4	No Waiver	39
15 N	IISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS	40
15.1	Force Majeure	40
15.2	Action of Parties	40
15.3	Notices	40
15.4	Public Notice	40
15.5 Severability		41
15.6	Warranties	41
15.7	Administration of Franchise	41
15.8	No Recourse Against The Issuing Authority	41
15.9	Jurisdiction	41
15.10	Entire Agreement	42
15.11	Effective Date	42

CHARTER FRANCHISE AGREEMENT

This Franchise Agreement is between the Town of Ludlow, hereinafter referred to as the "Issuing Authority" and Charter Communications Entertainment I, DST l/k/a Charter Communications, hereinafter referred to as the "Licensee."

WHEREAS, the Issuing Authority of the Town of Ludlow, Massachusetts ("Town"), pursuant to Chapter 166A of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, as inserted by Chapter 1103 of the Acts of 1971, as amended, is authorized to grant one or more non-exclusive, renewal licenses to construct, upgrade, operate and maintain a Cable Television System within the Town of Ludlow and

WHEREAS, the Issuing Authority finds that the Licensee has substantially complied with the material terms of the current Franchise under applicable laws, and that the financial, legal and technical ability of the Licensee appears to be sufficient to provide services, facilities and equipment necessary to meet the future cable-related needs of the community, and

WHEREAS, both parties agree that this statement shall in no way eliminate, reduce or abridge any of the lawful rights and remedies available to the Town or Licensee in the future, and

WHEREAS, having afforded the public adequate notice and opportunity for comment, Issuing Authority desires to enter into this Franchise with the Licensee for the construction and operation of a cable system on the terms set forth herein; and

WHEREAS, the Issuing Authority and Licensee have complied with all federal and Statemandated procedural and substantive requirements pertinent to this franchise renewal;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Franchise Authority and Licensee agree as follows:

1 Definition of Terms

1.1 Terms

For the purpose of this franchise the following terms, phrases, words and their derivations shall have the meaning ascribed to them in the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984, as amended from time to time (the "Cable Act"), unless otherwise defined herein. When not inconsistent with the context, words used in the present tense include the future, words in the plural number include the singular number, and words in the singular number include the plural number. The word "shall" is mandatory and "may" is permissive. Words not defined shall be given their common and ordinary meaning.

- 1. "Affiliate or Affiliated Person" shall mean another person who owns or controls, is owned or controlled by, or is under common ownership or control with, such person.
- 2. "Cable Act" shall mean Public Law No. 98-549, 98 Stat. 2779 (1984) (the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984), as amended, 47 U.S.C. §§ 521, et. seq. by Public Law No. 102-385, 106 Stat. 1460 (1992) (the Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act of 1992 (the "1992 Cable Act"), as further amended by Public Law No. 104-458, 110 Stat. 110 (1996) (the Telecommunications Act of 1996).
- 3. "Cable System," "Cable Service," "Cable Operator" and "Basic Cable Service" shall be defined as set forth in the Cable Act
- 4. "Cable Division" shall mean the Cable Television Division of the Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Cable.
- 5. "Drop or Cable Drop" shall mean the cable that connects each home or building to the feeder line of the Cable System.
- 6. "Effective Date" or "Execution Date shall mean September 17, 2010.
- 7. "FCC" shall mean the Federal Communications Commission and any successor governmental entity thereto
- 8. "Franchise" or "License" shall mean the non-exclusive rights granted pursuant to this franchise to construct and operate a Cable System along the public ways within all or a specified area in the Service Area.
- 9. "Gross Annual Revenue" means all revenue allowed under the law and includes any revenue received by the Licensee from the operation of the Cable System to provide Cable Services in the Service Area including home shopping and advertising, provided, however, that such phrase shall not include: (1) any taxes, fee or assessment of general applicability collected by the Licensee from Subscribers for pass-through to a government agency, including the FCC User Fee; (2) un-recovered bad debt; and (3) any Franchise Fee, PEG or I-Net amounts recovered from Subscribers.
- 10. "Installation" shall mean the connection of the Cable System from feeder cable to Subscribers' terminals.
- 11. "Is suing Authority" shall mean the Board of Selectmen of Ludlow.
- 12. "Licensee or Franc hisee" shall mean Charter Communications Entertainment I, DST l/k/a Charter Communications or its lawful successor, transferee or assignee.
- 13. "License Fee or Franchise Fee" shall mean the payments to be made by the Licensee to the Town of Ludlow, which shall have the meaning as set forth in Section 622(g) of the Cable Act and M.G. L. Chapter 166A.
- 14. "PEG" shall mean the acronym for "public, educational and governmental," used in conjunction with Access Channels, support and facilities.

- 15. "PEG Acce ss Channels" shall mean any channel(s) made available for the presentation of PEG Access Programming.
- 16. "Person" shall mean an individual, partnership, association, organization, corporation or any lawful successor, transferee or assignee of said individual, partnership, association, organization or corporation.
- 17. "Public School" shall mean any school at any educational level operated within the Service Area by any public school system, but limited to, elementary, junior/middle high school, and high school.
- 18. "Public Way or Street" shall include each of the following located within the Service Area: public streets, roadways, highways, bridges, land paths, boulevards, avenues, lanes, alleys, sidewalks, circles, drives, easements, rights-of-way and similar public ways and extensions and additions thereto, including but not limited to public utility easements, dedicated utility strips, or rights-of-way dedicated for compatible uses now or hereafter held by the Issuing Authority in the Service Area, which shall entitle the Licensee to the use thereof for the purpose of installing, operating, repairing and maintaining the Cable System..
- 19. "Reasonable notice" shall be w ritten notice addressed to the Licensee at its principal office or such other office as the Licensee has designated to the Issuing Authority as the address to which notice should be transmitted to it.
- 20. "Renewal License" shall mean the non-exclusive Cable Television Renewal License granted to the Licensee by this instrument. "Service Area" shall mean the geographic boundaries of the Franchise Authority, and shall include any additions thereto by annexation or other legal means, subject to the exception in subsection 6.1 hereto.
- 21. "Si gnal" shall mean any transmission of electromagnetic or optical energy which carries Programming from one location to another.
- 22. "State" shall mean the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
- 23. "Subscriber " shall mean any person lawfully receiving Cable Service from the Licensee.
- 24. "To wn" shall mean the Town of Ludlow, Massachusetts.
- 25. "Trun k and Distribution System" shall mean that portion of the Cable System for the delivery of Signals, but not including Drop cables to Subscriber's residences.

2 Grant of Franchise

2.1 Grant

- (a) PURSUANT to the authority of Chapter 166A of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, (M.G.L. c. 166A) as inserted by Chapter 1103 of the Acts of 1971, as amended, and to federal law, the Board of Selectmen as the Issuing Authority of the Town of Ludlow, Massachusetts ("Town"), shall grant a non-exclusive renewal Cable Television License to Charter Communications Entertainment I, D.S.T. ("Licensee") a Delaware Statutory Trust established for such purpose, authorizing and permitting said Licensee to operate a Cable Television System within the corporate limits of the Town of Ludlow, Massachusetts. The Renewal License is granted pursuant to Chapter 166A of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, as amended, and with all rules and regulations of the FCC, the rules and regulations of Cable Division, the Cable Act, as amended, and all other rules and regulations in force and effect upon the date hereof.
- (b) Subject to the terms and conditions herein, the Issuing Authority shall grant to Licensee the right to upgrade, install, operate and maintain a Cable System in, under, over, along, across, through or upon the Public Ways, including streets, lanes, avenues, alleys, sidewalks, bridges, highways and other public places under the jurisdiction of the Town of Ludlow within the municipal boundaries and subsequent additions thereto and that have been dedicated for compatible uses, including property over which the Town has an easement or right-of-way, Private Ways and also through public and private easements, which are within the Town, that have been dedicated for compatible uses. In exercising rights pursuant to the Renewal License, Licensee shall not endanger or interfere with the lives of persons or, without prior written permission, unlawfully interfere with any installations of the Town, any public utility serving the Town or any other persons permitted to use public ways and places. Such use of public ways and places shall be subject to and in accordance with all applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations. Grant of the Renewal License does not establish priority for use over other present or future permit holders or the Town's own use of public ways and places. Disputes between Licensee and other parties regarding use of public ways and places shall be resolved in accordance with the Ludlow Department of Public Works and/or Highway Department, as applicable, regulations, or governing applicable law or bylaw.

2.2 <u>Term</u>

The Franchise and the rights, privileges and authority hereby granted shall be for a term of ten (10) years, commencing on the Effective Date of this Franchise as set forth in subsection 15.11, unless otherwise lawfully terminated in accordance with the terms of this Franchise.

2.3 Franchise Requirements For Other Franchise Holders.

- (a) The Renewal License shall not affect the right of the Issuing Authority to grant to any other person a license or right to occupy or use the streets, or portions thereof, for the construction, installation, operation or maintenance of a Cable Television System within the Town, or the right of the Issuing Authority to permit the use of the public ways and places of the Town for any purpose whatever. Licensee hereby acknowledges the Issuing Authority's right to make such grants and permit such uses. Issuing Authority shall not permit or authorize any person or entity to operate a cable system without a License or franchise, as defined by 47 U.S.C. § 522(9).
- (b) If the Town enters into any contract, license, agreement, or the like with a cable system operator, which is not an affiliate of Licensee, the terms of that contract, license or agreement shall be on substantially equivalent terms and conditions contained in this agreement or such terms and conditions equitably modified to reflect any differences between the License and any additional license, contract or agreement in terms of benefit to the respective cable system, including, but not limited to, such considerations as (i) length of term; (ii) extent of service area; (iii) system design and construction specifications; (iv) the payment of any franchise fees; (v) any payments for the support PEG access programming; (vii) any grants for capital equipment for PEG access programming; (vii) the provision of any service or service connections to schools or public buildings; (viii) the construction of an I-Net; and (ix) customer service standards. To the extent that the terms of the License are less favorable and more burdensome to the Licensee than those terms of such subsequent or additional license, contract, or agreement when such terms are taken as a whole, the Town, upon written request of the Licensee, after providing public notice, shall hold a public

hearing to afford Licensee the opportunity to demonstrate the disparate nature of the terms of the additional license(s) and, following said hearing, the Town shall take actions to rectify said differences, including, but not limited to, amending the additional license, contract, or agreement so that they are not on more favorable or less burdensome terms than the terms of the License or amending this License so that its terms are not less favorable or more burdensome than those of any additional license, contract, or agreement when taken as a whole. In devising an appropriate remedy, the Town shall consider that, in certain instances, eliminating ongoing obligations after the implementing construction has been undertaken may be inadequate to provide meaningful relief.

2.4 Police Powers and Conflicts with Franchise

By executing the Renewal License, the Licensee acknowledges that its rights are subject to the powers of the Town to adopt and enforce general by-laws necessary to the safety and welfare of the public. The Licensee shall comply with all applicable State and Town laws, by-laws, rules, and regulations governing construction within a Public Way. In the event of any conflict between this Franchise and any Issuing Authority ordinance or regulation, apart from the lawful police powers of the Town, materially contradicting the applicable provisions of this Franchise, this Franchise will prevail. This Franchise is a contract and except as to those changes, which are the result of the Issuing Authority's exercise of its general police power, the Issuing Authority may not take any unilateral action, which materially changes the explicit mutual promises in this contract. Nor may the Franchisee take any unilateral action, which materially changes the explicit mutual promises in this contract. Any changes to this Franchise must be made in writing signed by the Licensee and the Issuing Authority.

2.5 Removal or Abandonment

- (a) Licensee shall comply with Section 627 of the 1984 Cable Act, 47 U.S.C. 547, with respect to proceedings upon expiration or revocation, and, subject to the parties acting in accordance therewith,
- (b) Licensee shall comply with M.G.L. ch. 166A, s. 5(f) with respect to removal and abandonment to the extent consistent with the rights of the parties, if any, under said Section 627 of the 1984 Cable Act.

2.6 Cable System Franchise Required

No Cable System shall be allowed to occupy or use the streets or public rights- of -way of the Service Area or be allowed to operate without a Cable System Franchise and in accordance with state and federal regulations.

2.7 Cable Advisory Committee

At the discretion of the Issuing Authority, the Cable Advisory Committee may be vested by the Issuing Authority with such power and authority as may lawfully be delegated.

- (a) The Issuing Authority and/or its designee(s) shall be responsible for the day to day oversight of the Cable Television System pursuant to this License. The Issuing Authority and the Cable Advisory Committee, if so designated, shall monitor and enforce the Licensee's compliance with the terms and conditions of this License.
- (b) The Licensee shall meet with the Issuing Authority or the Cable Advisory Committee, if so designated, to review the Licensee's compliance with the License as well and to review other issues related to this License. Such meetings may be requested by the Issuing Authority, the Cable Advisory Committee, or the Licensee.

3 Franchise Renewal

3.1 Procedures for Renewal

The Issuing Authority and the Licensee agree that any proceedings undertaken by the Issuing Authority that relate to the renewal of the Licensee's Franchise shall be governed by and comply with the provisions of Section 626 of the Cable Act, or any such successor statute.

4 Indemnification and Insurance

4.1 Indemnification

- (a) The Licensee shall, by acceptance of the Franchise granted herein, defend the Town, its officers, boards, commissions, agents, and employees for all claims for injury to any Person or property caused by the activities of the licensee in the installation, operation, or maintenance of the Cable System and shall indemnify and hold The Town, its officers, boards, commissions, agents, and employees harmless from any and all liabilities, claims, demands, or judgments growing out of any injury to any Person or property as a result of the activities of Licensee arising out of the construction, repair, extension, maintenance, operation or removal of its wires, poles or other equipment of any kind or character used in connection with the operation of the Cable System, provided that the Issuing Authority shall give the Licensee written notice of its obligation to indemnify the Town in a manner consistent with subsection 4.1(b) below. In the event any such claim arises, the Issuing Authority shall tender the defense thereof to the Licensee and the Licensee shall have the right to defend, settle or compromise any claims arising hereunder and the Issuing Authority shall cooperate fully herein. If the Issuing Authority determined in good faith that its interests cannot be represented by the Licensee, the Licensee shall be excused from any obligation to represent the Town. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Licensee shall not be obligated to indemnify the Town, its officers, boards, commissions, agents, and employees for any damages, liability or claims resulting from the willful misconduct or negligence of the Town or for the Town's use of the Cable System, including any PEG channels.
- (b) In order for the Town to assert its rights to be indemnified, defended and held harmless, the Town must:
 - (i) Timely notify Licensee of any claim or legal proceeding which gives rise to such right;
 - (ii) If the Licensee is obligated to defend and indemnify the Town against such claims or actions, the Licensee shall in its sole discretion control such defense, compromise or settlement or other resolution or disposition of such claim or proceeding. The Licensee agrees to make every effort to include the Town in the participation of any such compromise, settlement or other such resolution or disposition of such claim or proceeding. In the event the Town determines its interests cannot be represented in good faith by the Licensee, the Town may otherwise seek legal representation;
 - iii) The Town shall fully cooperate with the reasonable requests of the Licensee in its participation in, and control, compromise, settlement or resolution or other disposition of such claim or proceeding subject to subparagraph (ii) above.
- (c) The Town hereby reserves to itself, and the Licensee acknowledges the Town's right, to the extent, authorized by applicable law or regulation, to intervene in any suit, action or proceeding directly relating to the provisions of this License.

4.2 Insurance

A. The Licensee shall maintain throughout the term of the Franchise insurance in amounts at least as follows:

Workers' Compensation Statutory Limits

Commercial General Liability [\$1,000,000] per occurrence,

Combined Single Liability (C.S.L.)

[\$2,000,000] General Aggregate

Auto Liability including coverage [\$1,000,000] per occurrence C.S.L.

on all owned, non-owned

hired autos Umbrella Liability

Umbrella Liability

[\$2,000,000] per occurrence C.S.L.

- B. The Town shall be added as an additional insured to the above Commercial General Liability and Umbrella Liability insurance coverage.
- C. The Licensee shall furnish the Issuing Authority with current certificates of insurance evidencing such coverage.

4.3 Performance Bond

The Licensee shall submit and maintain throughout the License a bond with corporate surety satisfactory to the Issuing Authority in the amount of thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000.00) conditioned on the following terms:

- (1) The satisfactory operation of the Cable System in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. c. 166A §§ 5(a), (m) & (n) and this License.
- (2) The satisfactory restoration of pavements, sidewalks and other improvements in accordance with M.G.L. c. 166A § 5(g) and as approved by the Issuing Authority and Superintendent of Streets of the Town;
- (3) The sightly preservation of trees and the vegetation in accordance with M.G.L.c. 166A § 5(g) and as approved by the Issuing Authority and Tree Warden;
 - (4) The indemnification of the Town in accordance with M.G.L.c. 166A § 5(b);
- (5) The satisfactory removal of the cable system in accordance with M.G.L. c. 166A § 5(f) and within six (6) months from the date of lawful notice from the Issuing Authority to so remove the cable system.
 - (6) Substantial compliance with material terms of license

Said bond shall be a continuing obligation throughout the entire term of this Renewal License, and thereafter until the Licensee has satisfied all of its obligations to the Town that may have arisen from the grant of the Renewal License or from the exercise of any privilege herein granted. In the event that the Town recovers from said surety, the Licensee shall take immediate steps to reinstate the performance bond to the appropriate amount required herein. Neither this section, any bond accepted pursuant thereto, nor any damages recovered thereunder shall limit the liability of the Licensee under the Renewal License.

5 Subscriber Rights And Consumer Protection

5.1 Customer Service Hours and Telephone Response Service

- (a) Licensee, at its sole discretion, will maintain and operate a customer service office in the Town of Ludlow, for accepting payments, handling equipment returns, processing complaints and related services.. The parties acknowledge that any such office in Ludlow or a nearby town shall be available for use by Ludlow subscribers and subscribers from other Towns.
- (b) The Licensee shall maintain a publicly listed toll-free telephone number for subscriber access to customer service representatives and its hours of service shall meet or exceed the hours required in the F.C.C. definition of normal business hours, see 47 Code of Federal Regulations, §. 76.309(c) (4).
- (c) Qualified customer service representatives will be available to respond to customer telephone inquiries in accordance with this License. Such representatives will provide information to help Subscribers troubleshoot basic problems including VCR/DVR cable interconnect problems.
- (d) Under normal operating conditions, telephone answer time by a customer service representative, including wait time, and the time required to transfer the call, shall not exceed 30 seconds, 90% of the time 24 hours per day, 7 days a week, as measured on a quarterly basis. In enforcing this provision, the Issuing Authority shall take into considerations any temporary special circumstance effecting the Licensee's ability to comply (such as upgrading or expansion of the call center or the deployment of advanced services requiring additional personnel training and customer education) provided always that the Licensee can show that such circumstances will result only in temporary effects upon compliance. Licensee agrees to maintain an automated call distribution system capable of monitoring compliance with this standard and shall provide the Town, upon written request, with quarterly printouts of telephone response data. For the purposes of this paragraph and Article 7 generally, the term normal operating conditions shall be defined in accordance with F.C.C. customer service standards, 47 C.F.R. s. 76.309.

5.2 Billing Practices Information And Procedures

- (a) The Licensee shall inform all prospective Subscribers of complete information respecting billing and collection procedures, procedures for ordering changes in or termination of service, and refund policies, upon solicitation of service and prior to the consummation of any agreement for installation of service.
- (b) All billing practices and procedures will be governed by the procedures set forth in 207 CMR § 10.00, et seq., as may be amended from time to time.

5.3 Notification Of Rates And Charges

The Licensee shall inform the Issuing Authority of all rates and charges of any kind, and all terms or conditions relating thereto. Thereafter, the Licensee shall inform the Issuing Authority of all changes in service, rates and charges of any kind, and all terms and conditions relating thereto in such time and manner as necessary to comply with law and regulations, and to the extent such service charges are under Licensee's control. The Licensee shall notify all Subscribers of any impending rate increases in such time and manner as necessary to comply with law and regulations.

5.4 <u>Disconnection and Termination Of Cable Services</u>

The account of a Subscriber shall be considered delinquent and therefore subject to disconnection only in accordance with Licensee's payment policy and subject to all applicable laws and regulations.

5.5 F.C.C. Customer Service

The Licensee shall comply with the F.C.C. Customer Service Standards (47 C.F.R. § 76.309) attached as Schedule 5.5 and incorporated herein. The Town may, upon written request, receive a quarterly report of the Licensee's telephone statistics in order to measure the Licensee's compliance with reasonable telephone standards. Should the Town, in writing, request clarification of the Licensee's telephone report, the Licensee shall, upon invitation by the Town, schedule a meeting with the Town to review said report and advise the Town what measures are being employed by the Licensee to meet a reasonable telephone response standard.

5.6 Employee And Agent Identification Cards

All of the Licensee's employees and agents entering upon private property, in connection with the construction, installation, maintenance and/or operation of the Cable System, including repair and sales personnel, shall be required to carry an employee photo identification card issued by the Licensee.

5.7 Protection Of Subscribers Privacy

The Licensee shall fully comply with the privacy rights of Subscribers as contained in Cable Act Section 631 (47 U.S.C. § 551).

5.8 Equal Employment Opportunity

The Licensee shall comply with all laws and regulations with respect to Equal Employment Opportunities.

5.9 No Discrimination.

Licensee shall not deny service, deny access, or otherwise discriminate against Subscribers, channel users, or general citizens on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, age or sex. Licensee shall comply with all Federal and State Regulations concerning non-discrimination.

5.10 Initial Installation and Service Call Procedures in Wired Areas

- (a) The Licensee shall install cable service in all areas of the Town to those residents whose homes are passed by the Cable System and who have requested service within seven (7) business days of said request for standard aerial installations and within ten (10) business days, weather permitting, of a request for underground installation, subject to Licensee's receipt of necessary permits and easements on reasonable terms.
- (b) The Licensee shall specify to the Subscriber, in advance, whether said installation visit or service call will occur in a weekday morning block, weekday afternoon block, weekday evening block, or a Saturday block. Evening service visits (after 6:00 p.m.) shall be available on a scheduled basis, subject to availability and subject to safety considerations. If Licensee cannot make an appointment, Licensee shall call the Subscriber in advance to cancel. The Licensee shall give priority for next day or next "available time" installation or service appointments to Subscribers who cannot be scheduled within the aforementioned time periods. Unless caused by a Subscriber's failure to make the premises available to the Licensee at the time scheduled, failure to make the installation or service call as scheduled shall require the Licensee to automatically offer a priority cable installation or service visit to the affected Subscriber at a time mutually agreeable to the Licensee and said Subscriber, but in no case later than twenty-four (24) hours following the initial installation date, or 24 hours following the service date, unless mutually agreed to otherwise by said Subscriber and the Licensee. In the event a service problem is attributable to technical problems in the Cable System but are wholly within parts of the Cable System that are not on private property, Licensee shall not require Subscribers to be at home at the time of the service call.
- (c) Under normal operating conditions, the Licensee shall respond within 24 hours to service complaint calls or requests for repair service where there is a loss of picture or audio on all Channels. Under normal operating conditions, all other service complaint calls or requests for repair service shall be responded to within thirty-six (36) hours, except that Subscribers can schedule service visits beyond this time frame at the Subscriber's option. These

standards shall be met in accordance with FCC standards in effect as of the execution of this License.

- (d) The Licensee shall ensure that there are stand-by service personnel on call at all times after normal business hours. The answering service shall be required to notify the stand-by personnel of an unusual number of calls or a number of similar calls or a number of calls coming from the same area.
- (e) System Outages, deemed to occur upon the failure of service to five (5) or more Subscribers at or about the same time and in the vicinity of each other that are served by the same amplifier, shall be responded to immediately, twenty-four (24) hours a day by Licensee personnel.
- (f) Licensee shall supply a telephone number to a designee of the Issuing Authority, if requested, which shall not be available to the general public, and which is capable of reaching appropriate management personnel in the event that emergency repair service is needed and which is to be used only if normal Licensee lines do not allow a rapid connection to appropriate Licensee personnel. The term emergency in the foregoing sentence shall mean events involving potential injury to persons or property, or loss of service to substantial areas. Licensee shall maintain a staff of stand-by technicians who are ready to make the necessary repairs in the event of such an emergency; and such emergency request shall be responded to immediately, twenty-four (24) hours a day by Licensee personnel.

5.11 <u>Subscriber Solicitation Procedures</u>

Licensee will provide all prospective Subscribers with complete, clear and concise written information prior to or at the time of initial installation of Cable Service and Licensee shall annually provide existing Subscribers with equivalent information, subject to applicable law. Such materials shall clearly disclose the price and other information concerning Licensee's lowest cost service. Such information shall include but not be limited to the following:

- (a) All services, rates and charges, including but not limited to deposits, if applicable, installation costs, additional television set charges, service upgrade or downgrade charges, and relocation of cable outlet charges.
- (b) Written information concerning billing and termination procedures, procedures for ordering changes in or termination of services, and all refund policies, including the availability of rebates or credits for loss of service.
- (c) Written information concerning known incompatibilities associated with the utilization of video cassette recorders and cable ready television sets with cable service(s), and information on the cost for hooking up VCR/DVRs and any other associated VCR/DVR costs or charges.
- (d) Written information concerning the availability of special equipment such as A/B switches and parental control devices.
 - (e) Written information concerning the Licensee's privacy policies, pursuant to state and federal law.
 - (f) Written information concerning steps to take in the event of loss of service; and
 - (g) Any other customer service disclosures required by federal or state law.
- (h) If requested by a subscriber, Licensee shall exercise reasonable efforts to provide information relevant to use of the Cable System for hearing impaired or other disabled persons.

5.12 Response to Service Calls and Service Complaints

- (a) Licensee shall meet or exceed F.C.C. Customer Service Standards when responding to all complaint calls or requests for service.
 - (b) Licensee shall ensure that there are stand-by personnel on-call at all times after normal business hours.
 - (c) Licensee shall respond to System Outages as soon as practicable, twenty-four (24) hours a day seven (7)

days a week.

(d) Nothing herein shall be construed to require Licensee to violate applicable provisions of federal and Massachusetts Law concerning Subscriber privacy.

5.13 Complaint Resolution Procedures

- (a) In compliance with applicable law(s), the Licensee shall establish a procedure for resolution of billing and privacy disputes and complaints by Subscribers. The Licensee shall provide, on an annual basis, a written description of said procedures, including telephone numbers to call for complaints and other services, to all Subscribers, and the Issuing Authority. To extent required by applicable law, the Licensee shall also have periodic insertions in its Subscribers' bills that inform Subscribers of such complaint procedures.
- (b) The Licensee shall, in normal operating conditions, promptly respond to all Subscriber complaints, but in any event within thirty-six (36) hours of receipt of any such complaints except as otherwise provided herein Section 5.8(d). The term "normal operating conditions" shall be defined in accordance with F.C.C. customer service standards, 47 C.F.R. s. 76.309 (c) (4).
- (c) If the Issuing Authority determines it to be in the public interest, the Issuing Authority or its designee(s) may investigate any complaints or disputes brought by Subscribers arising from the operations of the Licensee, provided said Subscribers make a good faith effort to comply with the Licensee's procedures specified in paragraph (a) above for the resolution of complaints.
- (d) In the event that the Issuing Authority finds a pattern of multiple unresolved Subscriber complaints, the Licensee shall implement appropriate and reasonable amendments to the Licensee's procedures for the resolution of complaints.
- (e) Licensee acknowledges that for a matter to be defined as a complaint for purposes of reporting complaints to the Issuing Authority on state-prescribed complaint reporting forms, Licensee shall comply with the definition of complaint under applicable law.
- (f) Licensee shall, within ten (10) days after receiving a written request therefore, send a written report to the Issuing Authority and affected customer with respect to any written complaint. Such report, which may be sent via email, shall provide a full explanation of the investigation, finding(s) and corrective steps taken.

5.14 Change of Service

Upon notification by a Subscriber to disconnect or downgrade a Basic or Premium Service, the Licensee shall cease and/or adjust said Subscriber's monthly service charges immediately or as of the Subscriber's specified disconnect or downgrade date.

5.15 Protection of Subscribers Privacy

- (a) Licensee will comply with all privacy provisions of applicable federal and state laws including, but not limited to, the provisions of Section 631 of the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984 and Title 18 United States Code, Section 2520. The Licensee shall be responsible for carrying out and enforcing the Cable Television System's privacy policy, and shall at all times maintain adequate physical, technical and administrative security safeguards to ensure that personal Subscriber information is handled and protected strictly in accordance with this policy. The Licensee shall notify all third parties who offer cable services in conjunction with the Licensee, or independently over the Cable Television System, of the Subscriber privacy requirements contained in this Renewal License.
- (b) At the time of entering into an agreement to provide Cable Service to a Subscriber and at least once a year thereafter, the Licensee shall provide all Subscribers with the written notice required in Section 631(a)(1) of the Cable Act.
- (c) In accordance with Section 631 of the Cable Act, Licensee and its agents or employees shall not, without

giving Subscribers an opportunity to prevent disclosure, disclose to any third party data identifying or designating any Subscriber either by name or address unless required by law. Said opportunity to prevent disclosure shall be provided to each Subscriber annually through a written notice. A Subscriber shall have the right, at any time, to request Licensee not to disclose to any third party data identifying the Subscriber by name and address and Licensee shall abide by this request.

5.16 Remote Control Devices, Converters/Receivers, VCR/DVD/Cable Compatibility, A/B Switch, and Parental Control

- (a) Licensee shall allow Subscribers to purchase remote control devices from parties other than the Licensee and to utilize remote control devices, which are compatible with the converter installed by Licensee. Licensee shall not charge for the remote device or for use of a remote device when Subscriber has purchased and uses his/her own remote control, however converter charges shall be in accordance with F.C.C. regulations. Licensee shall also allow Subscribers to purchase their own compatible tuning converters/receivers that are not designed for descrambling/decoding and are subject to Licensee's retaining power to prohibit Subscriber converters/receivers from circumventing signal scrambling/decoding.
- (b) In order to assist Subscribers who own "cable-ready" VCR/DVDs to interconnect such VCR/DVDs with their "cable-ready" television sets, and to assist Subscribers in the interconnection of non-cable-ready VCRs and television sets, Licensee shall provide assistance to said Subscribers concerning same. Upon request, Licensee shall make available one (1) "A/B switch" at cost, if needed, and a splitter to each such Subscriber, at cost, to facilitate such interconnection. Licensee shall notify Subscribers about the availability of such "A/B" switch on an annual basis in accordance with Massachusetts consumer notification requirements. Use of such an A/B switch and splitter will allow any Subscriber with a cable-ready VCR/DVD to record any Channel while viewing an unscrambled Channel, or vice-versa, without the need of a second converter.
- (c) Licensee shall not charge an additional outlet fee for VCR/DVDs connected to a Cable Service primary outlet when said VCR/DVDs do not have separate converters.
- (d) In accordance with 207 CMR 10.03, the Licensee shall give notice in writing of its policies and practices regarding equipment to potential Subscribers before a subscription agreement is reached and annually to all existing Subscribers.
- (e) The Licensee shall provide Subscribers, upon request with traps to control the reception of any Channels on the Cable Television System, or at the published equipment rate, with a digital receiver capable of controlling such reception.
- (f) Licensee shall not remove any television antenna of any Subscriber but shall, at cost, offer to said Subscriber an adequate switching device ("A/B Switch") to allow said Subscriber to choose between cable and non-cable television reception

5.17 Offices and Phone

The Licensee shall maintain a toll-free telephone number, a phone service and e-mail contact service, operated such that complaints and requests for repairs or adjustments may be received at any time. The Licensee will make available telephone reports upon request of the Town.

5.18 <u>Notification of Service Procedures</u>

The Licensee shall furnish each Subscriber at the time service is installed, written instructions that clearly set forth information concerning the procedures for making inquiries or complaints, including the Licensee's name, address and local telephone number. Licensee shall give the Franchising Authority thirty (30) days prior notice of any rate increases, channel lineup or other substantive service changes.

5.19 Polling by Cable

No polling by cable or other upstream response of a Subscriber or user shall be conducted or obtained unless the program of which the poll or upstream response is a part shall contain a conspicuous and explicit disclosure of the nature, purpose, and prospective use of the results of the poll or upstream response, unless the program has a non-commercial, informational, educational function which is self-evident. Licensee or its agents shall release the results of poll or upstream responses only in the aggregate and without individual references, except as permitted and/or prohibited by Section 631 of the Cable Act or as permitted and/or prohibited by applicable State or federal law(s). The aforesaid disclosures shall not be required for general viewership surveys not gathering names and addresses or other personally identifiable data.

5.20 Information With Respect To Viewing Habits and Subscription.

In accordance with Section 631 of the Cable Act, Licensee or its agents or its employees shall not make available to any third party, including the Town, information concerning the viewing habits or subscription package decisions of any individual Subscriber except as permitted by law. If a court authorizes or orders such disclosure, the Licensee shall notify the Subscriber not less than fourteen (14) calendar days prior to disclosure, unless such notification is prohibited by applicable law or is otherwise impractical.

5.21 Subscriber's Right to Inspect and Verify Information.

In accordance with Section 631 of the Cable Act:

- (a) Licensee shall make available for inspection by a Subscriber during regular business hours at its business office all personal Subscriber information that Licensee maintains regarding said Subscriber.
- (b) A Subscriber may obtain from Licensee a copy of any or all of the personal Subscriber information regarding him or her maintained by Licensee. Licensee may require a reasonable fee for making said copy.
- (c) A Subscriber may challenge the accuracy, completeness, retention, use or dissemination of any item of personal Subscriber information. Such challenges and related inquiries about the handling of Subscriber information, shall be directed to Licensee's General Manager. A Subscriber shall be provided reasonable opportunity to correct any error in such information.
- (d) Licensee shall exercise diligent efforts to ensure that any personally identifiable Subscriber information in Licensee data bases is secure, and Licensee shall periodically implement data base security measures to maintain such security consistent with data security practices.

5.22 Voluntary Disconnection of Service

Subscribers who request disconnection of any cable service shall not be billed for such service subsequent to such request for termination of service. Licensee shall make a good faith effort to fully disconnect service as soon as possible after requested to do so by a Subscriber and in no event later than four (4) business days after such request (subject to not having abnormal conditions causing delay). Any credit due to Subscriber upon full termination of a service shall be paid to Subscriber or credited against any outstanding balance within forty-five (45) days and payable upon the return of equipment.

5.23 Monitoring.

Unless required by applicable law, neither Licensee or its agents nor the Town or its agents shall tap or monitor, arrange for the tapping or monitoring, or permit any other person to tap or monitor, any cable, line, signal, input device, or Subscriber outlet or receiver for any purpose, with the exception of technical tests, without the prior written authorization of the affected Subscriber or commercial user; provided, however, that Licensee may conduct system-wide or individually addressed "sweeps" solely for the purpose of verifying system integrity, checking for illegal taps, controlling return-path transmission, or billing for pay cable services or pay-per-view or other service-related activities. Licensee shall report to the affected parties and all appropriate authorities any instances of

unauthorized monitoring or, monitoring or tapping of municipal data transmission, the Cable Television System, or any part thereof, of which it has knowledge. Licensee shall not record or retain any information transmitted between a Subscriber or commercial user and any third party, except as required for lawful business purposes. Licensee shall destroy all Subscriber information of a personal nature after a reasonable period of time except as authorized not to do so by the affected Subscriber.

6 Service Availability

6.1 Service Area

The Licensee shall make Cable Service distributed over the Cable System available to all residents of the Town within seven (7) days of a request; provided, however, that (i) all such homes are on the Public Way or a Private Way (ii) such Public Ways or Private Ways can be accessed by Licensee from a Public Way without crossing a Town boundary; and (iii) to the extent that Licensee shall require easements, attachment to utility poles or other rights not granted herein, then such easements, attachments or other rights are available to Licensee on reasonable terms and conditions. Nothing herein shall be construed to preclude Licensee from charging a fee to any Subscriber or potential Subscriber for a standard or non-standard installation, as may be applicable. The Licensee may elect to provide Cable Service to areas not meeting the above standard. Licensee retains full ownership rights and interest in all portions of its Cable Television System, including, but not limited to, converters that it leases to subscribers, the Distribution Plant, the Cable Drops, the Outlets, the Subscriber Network, and the Trunk and Distribution System, as authorized in accordance with applicable law.

6.2 Standard Drops

- (a) Installation costs shall conform with the 1992 Cable Act, and regulations thereunder. Any dwelling unit within 200 aerial feet of the Cable System distribution plant shall be entitled to a standard installation rate, and the additional costs associated with completing installations located more than 200 feet from the Cable System distribution plant shall be charged to the Subscriber, after provision of a written itemization, on a cost of labor and materials basis only.
- (b) The Licensee will provide service to all areas with an average of 25 homes per aerial mile or greater without contribution in aid of construction by subscribers; In cases of a request for service not meeting the above criteria, the Franchisee will extend service to prospective subscribers who are willing to contribute to the cost of construction in accordance with the formula C/LE CA/P = SC where C equals the cost of construction of new plant; CA equals the average cost of construction per mile in the primary service area; P equals the minimum number of dwelling units per mile which would require the Franchisee to provide service in the primary service area; LE equals the number of dwelling units requesting service in the line extension area; SC equals subscriber contribution-in-aid of construction in the line extension area.
- (c) Whenever a potential subscriber located in a line extension area requests service, the Franchisee shall, within 30 days of the request, conduct a survey to determine the number of potential subscribers located in the line extension area and shall inform each of the potential subscribers of the contribution-in-aid of construction. During a three year period commencing with initiation of service to a particular line extension, a pro-rated refund shall be paid to previous subscribers of said extension as new subscribers are added to the extension. The amount of such refund, if any, shall be determined by application of the SC formula each time a new subscriber is added. The refunds shall be paid annually to subscribers, or former subscribers entitled to receive them.
- (d) A standard aerial installation charge shall be established by the Licensee which shall apply to any residence located not more than two hundred feet (200') of the Licensee's feeder cable. Longer aerial drops and underground drops shall be priced based on additional actual costs incurred in the installation.

6.3 New Development Underground

In cases of new construction or property development where utilities are to be placed underground, the Issuing Authority agrees to require as a condition of issuing a permit for open trenching to any developer or property owner that such developer or property owner give Licensee at least thirty (30) days prior notice of such construction or development, and of the particular dates on which open trenching will be available for Licensee's installation of conduit, pedestals and/or vaults, and laterals to be provided at Licensee's expense. Licensee shall also provide specifications as needed for trenching. Costs of trenching and easements required to bring service to the development shall be borne by the developer or property owner; except that if Licensee fails to install its conduit,

pedestals and/or vaults, and laterals within five (5) working days of the date the trenches are available, as designated in the notice given by the developer or property owner, then should the trenches be closed after the five-day period, the cost of new trenching is to be borne by Licensee.

6.4 Commercial Establishments

The Licensee shall make cable services available to any commercial establishments in the Town, which are located on the residential Subscriber Network, subject to the Licensee and each commercial establishment reaching a reasonable agreement regarding the terms and costs of initial installation and service which may or may not differ from the terms and costs that apply to residential Subscribers. It is herein acknowledged that certain programming services may not be available to commercial establishments, or may be available only upon certain terms and conditions, pursuant to law or the Licensee's agreements with its program suppliers.

6.5 Leased Access

Pursuant to the Cable Act, 47 U.S.C. 532 (b)(iii)(B), Licensee shall make available Channel capacity for commercial use by persons unaffiliated with Licensee.

6.6 Inspections

- a) In the event the Issuing Authority reasonably suspects non-compliance with Cable System construction and maintenance terms of this License, the Issuing Authority or its designee(s) shall have the right to inspect, in the presence of a representative of Licensee, all construction, installation and/or upgrade work performed subject to the provisions of this License and to make such tests as it shall deem necessary to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of this License and all other applicable law. Any such inspection shall be conducted at reasonable times on reasonable notice to Licensee, except that notice may be waived for public safety reasons involving need to inspect street conditions on time sensitive basis as may be customary for Department of Public Works. Licensee shall have the right to be present at any inspection except where street inspection is for safety purposes and involving customary right-of-way management and/or street restoration inspection as may be customary for Dept. of Public Works. Any such inspection shall not interfere with the Licensee's operations.
- b) Any tests conducted by the Town shall be at the sole cost and expense of the Town and shall have the prior written approval of the Licensee, and be conducted in the presence of a representative of Licensee. Unless otherwise mutually agreed upon, the Town shall give at least seven (7) days prior notification to the Licensee of its intention to conduct any testing. Any such testing shall take place at a time that is least disruptive to subscribers.

7 Construction and Technical Standards

7.1 Compliance with Codes

- (a) Licensee shall maintain and operate the Cable System in existence as of the expiration of the prior license, with the Cable System continuing to have not less than 750 MHz. The Cable System shall be able to receive and transmit community-specific programming independent from that offered in other Towns. Subsequent to the effective date hereof, Licensee shall continue to maintain the availability of not less than seventy-eight programmed Channels, subject to applicable must-carry rules and other applicable law, unless Licensee finds that said number of Channels cannot be provided in a commercially practicable way. Licensee shall be reasonably available to meet with the Issuing Authority and discuss for informational purposes only any program changes in advance of the implementation of such changes. The Licensee shall construct and operate a Cable Television System and render service to Subscribers consistent with the following laws and regulations during the term of this License. The construction, maintenance and operation of the Cable Television System shall be in conformance with the applicable provisions of the National Electrical Code, the Massachusetts Electrical Code, the National Electrical Safety Code, the NCTA Safety Manual, the National Television Standards Code and the applicable rules and regulations of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), the Massachusetts Department of Telecommunications and Cable and the FCC and all Town building and zoning codes, land use restrictions, and street opening and grant of location laws of general applicability.
- (b) All FCC regulations and standards concerning signal quality and technical standards are incorporated as independent standards in this License, including but not limited to 47 CFR 76.601 sub-part K, et seq. incorporated herein by reference, however, the parties acknowledge that pursuant to the Telecommunications Act of 1996, said standards are only locally enforceable to the extent allowed by federal law. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Licensee will, upon request of the Issuing Authority, review Licensee's compliance with said standards. Copies of any technical performance tests that may be required under FCC rules and regulations shall be submitted forthwith, upon request, to the Issuing Authority. Upon request of Issuing Authority, Licensee shall apprise Issuing Authority of known signal quality problems, if any, and disclose Licensee plans with respect to same.
- (c) Licensee shall take appropriate measures to minimize audio variations among Channels in the Cable System.
- (d) In the event of Subscriber complaints about signal quality resulting from problems, if any, with the Subscriber drop, Licensee will replace the Subscriber's drop at the residence of the complaining Subscriber if needed to remedy the signal problem at no cost to the Subscriber.
- (e) With respect to seven or more complaints of signal quality problems involving the same or substantially similar matter within a 21 day period, the Issuing Authority may require Licensee to report on same within 10 calendar days of a request by the Issuing Authority. Licensee shall report on the nature of the problem and on any corrective action to be taken. If after that the Issuing Authority has reasonable basis for finding that Licensee appears not to be in compliance with technical specifications, the Issuing Authority shall have the right to require that Licensee's senior engineer shall conduct additional tests and issue a detailed report to the Issuing Authority pertaining to such tests.
- (f) All structures, lines, equipment, and connections in, over, under, and upon streets, sidewalks, alleys, and public ways and places of the Town, wherever situated or located, shall at all times be kept and maintained in a safe condition, in good order and repair and in a satisfactory aesthetic appearance acceptable to the Town.

7.2 <u>Construction Standards and Requirements</u>

The Cable System shall be designed, constructed and operated so as to meet those technical standards adopted by the FCC relating to Cable Systems contained in Part 76 of the FCC's rules and regulations as may, from time to time, be amended.

7.3 Safety

The Licensee shall at all time employ ordinary care and shall use commonly accepted methods and devices preventing failures and accidents, which are likely to cause damage.

7.4 Network Technical Requirements

The Cable System shall be operated so that it is capable of continuous twenty-four (24) hour daily operation, capable of meeting or exceeding all applicable federal technical standards, as they may be amended from time to time, and operated in such a manner as to comply with all applicable FCC regulations.

7.5 Performance Monitoring

Licensee shall test the Cable System consistent with the FCC regulations.

7.6 Performance Evaluations.

The Issuing Authority shall at its discretion but not more than once a year, hold a performance evaluation session on or about the anniversary of the effective date of this License. All such evaluation sessions shall be open to the public. The purpose of said evaluation sessions shall be to, among other things, review Licensee's compliance to the terms and conditions of this License, and hear comments, suggestions or complaints from the public. The Issuing Authority shall provide the Licensee with sixty (60) days, advance written notice of such performance evaluation session.

8 Conditions on Street Occupancy

8.1 **General Conditions**

Licensee shall have the right to utilize existing poles, conduits and other facilities subject to applicable law, and shall not construct or install any new, different, or additional poles, conduits, or other facilities on public property until the written approval of the Issuing Authority is obtained, which approval shall not be unreasonably withheld.

8.2 <u>Underground Construction</u>

The facilities of the Licensee shall be installed underground in those Service Areas where existing telephone and electric services are both underground at the time of system construction. In areas where either telephone or electric utility facilities are installed aerially at the time of system construction, the Licensee may install its facilities aerially with the understanding that at such time as the existing aerial facilities are required to be placed underground by the Issuing Authority, the Licensee shall likewise place its facilities underground. Underground cable lines shall be placed according to any Public Works Department or other Town or State by-law or regulation and in accordance with applicable state law. Licensee shall maintain membership and participate in the Massachusetts "DIG-SAFE" program pursuant to MGL c.82, §.40.

8.3 Permits

The Issuing Authority shall cooperate with the Licensee by conducting permit application proceedings reasonably and in accordance with applicable law, providing such grant and subsequent construction by the Licensee shall not unduly interfere with the use of such Streets.

8.4 System Construction

All transmission lines, equipment and structures shall be so installed and located as to cause minimum interference with the rights and reasonable convenience of property owners and at all times shall be kept and maintained in a safe, adequate and substantial condition, and in good order and repair. The Licensee shall, at all times, employ reasonable care and use commonly accepted methods and devices for preventing failures and accidents which are likely to cause damage, injuries, or nuisances to the public. Suitable barricades, flags, lights, flares or other devices shall be used at such times and places as are reasonably required for the safety of all members of the public. Any poles or other fixtures placed in any public way by the Licensee shall be placed in such a manner as not to interfere with the usual travel on such public way.

8.5 Restoration of Streets

Licensee shall, at its own expense, restore any damage or disturbance caused to a street as a result of its operation, construction, or maintenance of the Cable System to a condition reasonably comparable to the condition of the Street immediately prior to such damage or disturbance to such standard as required of utilities operating within the Town.

Whenever the Licensee excavates, opens or disturbs any pavement, sidewalk or other improvement of any Public Way or place, the same shall be replaced and the surface restored in as good condition as before entry as soon as practicable. If the Licensee fails to make such restoration within a reasonable time, the Issuing Authority may fix a reasonable time for such restoration and repairs and shall notify the Licensee in writing of the restoration and repairs required and the time fixed for performance thereof. Upon the failure of the Licensee to comply within the specified time period, the Issuing Authority may cause proper restoration and repairs to be made and the reasonable expense of such work shall be paid by the Licensee upon demand by the Issuing Authority. For the purpose of this section, "reasonable expense" shall provide for restoration to a condition similar to the original condition.

8.6 Removal in Emergency

Whenever, in case of fire or other disaster, it becomes necessary in the judgment of the Issuing Authority or appropriate public safety official to remove any of the Licensee's facilities, no charge shall be made by the Licensee against the Town or Issuing Authority for restoration and repair, unless such acts amount to gross negligence by the Issuing Authority or appropriate public safety official(s).

8.7 Tree Trimming

In the installation, maintenance, operation and repair of the poles, cables, wires and all appliances or equipment of the cable system, the Licensee shall avoid damage to trees whether on public or private property in the Town and shall cut or otherwise prune such trees only to the least extent necessary. No cutting or trees on Town property shall be done except upon a permit in writing from the Town Department of Public Works or other appropriate municipal official or in accordance with the applicable regulations or requirements of the Town. Licensee shall secure the permission of the property owner prior to reasonable trimming of trees on private property.

8.8 Relocation for the Issuing Authority

The Licensee shall, upon receipt of reasonable advance written notice, to be not less than ten (10) business days, protect, support, temporarily disconnect, relocate, or remove any property of Licensee when lawfully required by the Issuing Authority pursuant to its police powers such as public safety, street construction, change or establishment of street grade or layout, installation of sewers, drains, water pipes, power or signal lines, setting of new or replacement utility poles and the construction of any public improvement or structure. Licensee shall be responsible for any costs associated with these obligations to the same extent all other users of the Town's rights-of-way are responsible for the costs related to their facilities.

8.9 Relocation for a Third Party

The Licensee shall, on the request of any person holding a lawful permit issued by the Issuing Authority, protect, support, raise, lower, temporarily disconnect, relocate in or remove from the Street as necessary any property of the Licensee, provided that the expense of such is paid by any such person benefiting from the relocation and the Licensee is given reasonable advance written notice to prepare for such changes. The Licensee may require such payment in advance. For purposes of this subsection, "reasonable advance written notice" shall be no less than ten (10) business day in the event of a temporary relocation and no less than one hundred twenty days (120) for a permanent relocation.

8.10 Reimbursement of Costs

If funds are available to any utility using the Streets for the purpose of defraying the cost of any of the foregoing, the Issuing Authority shall exercise reasonable efforts to reimburse the Licensee in the same manner in which other similarly situated utilities affected by the requirement are reimbursed, subject to Licensee making timely request for same, and subject to said funds being authorized by the ultimate source of said funds for use for cable system plant. If the funds are controlled by another governmental entity, the Issuing Authority shall make application for such funds on behalf of the Licensee, subject to Licensee making timely request for same, and subject to Licensee cooperating in such application by preparing, if requested by the Town, any documentation or paperwork as may be needed for such application.

8.11 Emergency Use

Licensee shall comply with all federal and state Emergency Alert System ("EAS") requirements.

8.12 Private Property

The Licensee shall be subject to all laws, by-laws and/or regulations regarding private property in the course of constructing, installing, operating and maintaining the Cable Television System in the Town. The Licensee shall promptly repair or replace all private property, real and personal, damaged or destroyed as a result of the construction, installation, operation or maintenance of the Cable System at its sole cost and expense.

8.13 Reservation of Rights

Acceptance of the terms and conditions of this franchise will not constitute, or be deemed to constitute, a waiver, either expressly or implied, by the Licensee or by the Town of any legal rights which either party may have or may be subsequently determined to have, either by subsequent legislation or court decisions.

8.14 Subscriber Network

- (a) Subject to Section 5.1 infra, the Licensee shall continue to operate, maintain and make available to residents of the Town its existing 750 MHz Subscriber Network. Said Cable System shall be fully capable of carrying at least seventy-eight (78) video channels in the downstream direction.
- (b) The Licensee shall transmit all of its broadcast and commercial Signals to Ludlow Subscribers in stereo, if such Signals are furnished to the Licensee in stereo.
- (c) In the event that Licensee is required by applicable law to provide all channels in accordance with digital standards, then Licensee shall ensure that PEG Access channels are carried subject to the same digital standards as other channels, to maintain substantial equivalency between PEG Access channels and other subscriber channels.

8.15 Service Interruptions

Except where there exists an emergency necessitating a more expeditious procedure, Licensee shall use reasonable efforts to interrupt service for the purpose of system construction, routine maintenance or testing the Cable System only during period of minimum use.

9 Rates, Charges And Programming

9.1 Rate Regulation

Issuing Authority shall have the right to exercise rate regulation to the extent authorized by law, or to refrain from exercising such regulation for any period of time, at the sole discretion of the Issuing Authority. If and when exercising rate regulation, the Issuing Authority shall abide by the terms and conditions set forth by the FCC. Licensee shall, upon request, provide Issuing Authority with documents filed in any F.C.C. or state rate proceeding.

9.2 Continuity of Service

It shall be the right of all Subscribers to continue receiving Cable Service insofar as their financial and other obligations to the Licensee are honored.

9.3 Credits For Service Interruption

Pursuant to 207 CMR, Licensee shall grant a pro rata credit or rebate to any Subscriber whose entire Cable Service is interrupted for twenty-four (24) or more consecutive hours, if the interruption was not caused by the Subscriber and the Licensee knew or should have known of the service interruption. Pursuant to 207 CMR, if an entire tier or Premium Service of a Subscriber's Cable Service is interrupted for twenty-four (24) or more consecutive hours, the Licensee shall provide a pro rata credit or rebate for each tier or Premium Service interruption as provided in 207 CMR.

9.4 Publication And Non-Discrimination

All rates for residential Cable Service shall be published and non-discriminatory, although discounts may be made available to senior citizens and/or handicapped Subscribers, or through bulk accounts. A written schedule of all rates shall be available upon request during Normal Business Hours at the Licensee's business office. Nothing in this Renewal License shall be construed to prohibit the reduction or waiver of charges in conjunction with promotional campaigns for the purpose of attracting Subscribers.

9.5 Senior Citizen Discount

- (a) For the term of this License only, for those eligible pursuant to the provisions below, the Senior Citizen or Handicapped Citizen Discount shall be ten percent (10%) off of the price of the Basic Service tier of service, and shall not apply to any other channels or tiers and shall not apply to packages or bundles.
- (b) To be eligible, a resident must meet the following criteria: sixty-five (65) years of age or older or handicapped and head of household and in each case receiving one of the following: (i) Supplemental Security Income (SSI); (ii) Medicaid; (iii) Veterans' Services Benefits; (iv) the Town's income-based senior citizen real estate tax abatement, if any, pursuant to applicable law; or (v) any other suitable criteria that the Licensee and the Issuing Authority mutually agree upon.
- (c) To establish eligibility, a resident shall bring or mail a photocopy of a valid driver's license, birth certificate or other document definitively establishing age, plus a photocopy of documentation definitively establishing receipt by the resident at time of application for this discount of any one of the programs listed in (i)-(v) of Section 9.5(b). A resident need establish eligibility for this discount only once to continue receiving it so long as they remain a Subscriber. Those Ludlow customers receiving a Senior Discount as of the Effective Date of this Renewal License are not required to re-establish eligibility.

10 Franchise Fee

10.1 Amount of Fee

- (a) Pursuant to MGL Chapter 166A §9, the Licensee shall pay to the Town, throughout the term of this Renewal License, a license fee equal to \$0.50 per Subscriber per year, or such higher amount as may in the future be allowed pursuant to law. The number of Subscribers, for purposes of this section, shall be calculated as of December thirty-first of the preceding calendar year.
- (b) The Licensee shall not be liable for a total franchise fee pursuant to this Renewal License and applicable Law in excess of five (5) percent of its Gross Annual Revenues subject to and in accordance with the federal Cable Act definition of the five (5) percent franchise fee and in accordance with the Cable Act regarding what is included and excluded for purposes of calculating said five percent. If in the future, franchise fee payments to the Town are in excess of (5) five percent of Licensee's gross annual revenues, said payments will be decreased by the aggregate amount of the annual access funding and operating support provided to Town by Licensee in order to stay within the five (5) percent of Gross Annual Revenues cap specified herein.

10.2 Payment of Fee

Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 166A, § 9, the license fees payable pursuant to c. 166A, s. 9 shall be paid annually to the Town throughout the term of this Renewal License, not later than March 15th of each year, unless otherwise required by applicable law.

10.3 Other Payment Obligations and Exclusions

- (a) The License Fee payments shall be in addition to and shall not constitute an offset or credit against any and all taxes or other fees or charges which the Licensee or any Affiliated Person or party shall be required to pay to the Town, or to any State or federal agency or authority, as required herein or by law; the payment of said taxes, fees or charges shall not constitute a credit or offset against the License Fee payments all of which shall be separate and distinct obligations of the Licensee and each Affiliated Person. The Licensee herein agrees that no such taxes, fees or charges shall be used as offsets or credits against the License Fee payments.
- (b) In accordance with Section 622(h) of the Cable Act (47 U.S.C. § 542(h), nothing in the Cable Act or this Renewal License shall be construed to limit any authority of the Issuing Authority to impose a non-discriminatory tax, fee or other assessment of any kind on any Person (other than the Licensee) with respect to Cable Service or other communications Service provided by such Person over the Cable System for which charges are assessed to Subscribers but not received by the Licensee. For any twelve (12) month period, the fees paid by such Person with respect to any such Cable Service or any other communications Service shall not exceed five percent (5%) of such Person's gross revenues derived in such period from the provision of such service over the Cable System, subject to and in accordance with the federal Cable Act definition of the five (5) percent franchise fee and in accordance with the Cable Act regarding what is included and excluded for purposes of calculating said five percent.

10.4 Accord and Satisfaction

No acceptance of any payment by the Issuing Authority shall be construed as a release or as an accord and satisfaction of any claim the Issuing Authority may have for additional sums payable as a franchise fee under this License.

10.5 Audit and Limitation on Recovery

No acceptance of any franchise fee payment by the Franchising Authority shall be construed as an accord and satisfaction that the amount paid is in fact the correct amount or a release of any claim that the Franchising Authority may have for further or additional sums payable under this Agreement. If the Issuing Authority has reason to believe that any such payment(s) are incorrect, the Licensee shall have thirty (30) business days after a request from the Issuing Authority to provide the Town with additional information documenting and verifying the accuracy of any such payment(s). In the event that the Issuing Authority does not believe that such documentation supports the accuracy of such payment(s), the Issuing Authority may conduct an audit of such payment(s). If, after such audit and re-computation, an additional fee is owed to the Town, such fee shall be paid within sixty (60) days after such audit and recomputation. In the event that any Franchise payment or recomputed payment is not made on or before the dates specified herein, Licensee shall pay an interest charge, computed from such due date, at the annual rate of one percent (1%) over the prime interest rate. The period of limitation for recovery of any franchise fee payable hereunder shall be three (3) years from the date on which payment by the Licensee was due.

10.6 Affiliates Use of System

The Licensee shall not permit the use or operation of the Cable System by Affiliates on terms which result in a diversion of revenues from operation of the Cable System to the detriment of the Town under this Renewal License. If requested by the Issuing Authority, the Licensee shall be required to demonstrate that use or operation of the Cable System by an Affiliate is fair and competitive compared to such use by other third parties. Should the Issuing Authority subsequently determine otherwise, the Licensee shall enter into good faith negotiations to resolve any dispute(s) regarding gross revenue discrepancies on account of such a relationship.

11 Transfer of Franchise

11.1 Franchise Transfer

- (a) The Franchise granted hereunder shall not be transferred or assigned, without the prior consent of the Franchising Authority, such consent not to be unreasonably withheld or delayed. No such consent shall be required, however, for a transfer in trust, by mortgage, by other hypothecation, or by assignment of any rights, title, or interest of the Licensee in the Franchise or Cable System to secure indebtedness. Within thirty (30) days of receiving an application in accordance with applicable law for transfer, the Franchising Authority shall notify the Licensee in writing of any additional information it reasonably requires to determine the legal, financial and technical qualifications of the transferee. If the Franchising Authority has not taken action on the Licensee's request for transfer within one hundred twenty (120) days or any other time as specified by state or Federal law after receiving such request, consent by the Franchising Authority shall be deemed given.
- (b) In considering a request to transfer control of this License, the Issuing Authority may consider the transferee's management experience, technical expertise, financial capability and legal ability to operate a Cable System under the existing license.
- (c) Any transfer or assignment of license shall, by its terms, be expressly subject to the terms and conditions of this License. Any transferee or assignee of this License shall be subject to all of the terms and conditions contained in this License.
- (d) The Licensee shall submit to the Issuing Authority the license transfer application if required by law.
- (e) Transfer of the Cable System without requesting Issuing Authority consent as required shall be null and void, and shall be a material breach of this License.
- (f) If the Issuing Authority lawfully denies its consent to any such transfer and a transfer is or has nevertheless been affected, or in the event of an otherwise unlawful transfer, the Issuing Authority may revoke and terminate this License.
- (g) In accordance with federal law, 47 U.S.C. 537, in the event a license transfer application is properly filed with the Issuing Authority, if the Issuing Authority does not act on the application within 120 calendar days from the Issuing Authority's receipt of the application, the application for transfer shall be deemed approved.

11.2 Transfer to Affiliates

The foregoing requirements shall not apply to any sale, assignment or transfer to any Person that is owned or controlled by the Licensee, or any Person that owns or controls the Licensee. Licensee shall notify the Issuing Authority thirty (30) days prior to any such sale, assignment or transfer and must comply with all terms and conditions of this License.

12 Records, Reports, Tests And Maps

12.1 Reports Required

The Licensee's schedule of charges, contract or application forms for regular Subscriber service, policy regarding the processing of Subscriber complaints, delinquent Subscriber disconnect and reconnect procedures and any other terms and conditions adopted as the Licensee's policy in connection with its Subscribers shall be filed with the Issuing Authority upon request. The Licensee shall furnish the Issuing Authority or its designee(s) no later than one hundred twenty (120) days after the end of Licensee's Fiscal Year, Cable Television Division forms 200 and 400, prepared in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles, including statements of significant assumptions and definitions as needed, or if such forms are not in use, similar forms and any other financial filings request by state or Federal Law.

12.2 Records Required

The Licensee shall at all times maintain all records according to State and FCC regulations:

- 1). A record of all complaints received regarding interruptions or degradation of Cable Service shall be maintained for one (1) year.
- 2). A full and complete set of plans, records and strand maps showing the location of the Cable System.

12.3 Inspection of Records

Licensee shall permit any duly authorized representative of the Issuing Authority, upon receipt of advance written notice to examine during normal business hours and on a non-disruptive basis any and all records as is reasonably necessary to ensure Licensee's compliance with the Franchise. Such notice shall specifically reference the subsection of the Franchise that is under review so that the Licensee may organize the necessary books and records for easy access by the Issuing Authority. The Licensee shall not be required by this Renewal License to maintain any books and records for Franchise compliance purposes longer than three (3) years, except for service complaints, which shall be kept for one (1) year as specified above. The Licensee shall not be required to provide Subscriber information in violation of Section 631 of the Cable Act. The Issuing Authority agrees to treat as confidential any books; records or maps that constitute proprietary or confidential information to the extent such are deemed proprietary or confidential by applicable law or regulation and the Licensee make the Issuing Authority aware of such confidentiality. If the Issuing Authority believes it must release any such confidential books or records in the course of enforcing this Franchise, or for any other reason, it shall advise Licensee in advance so that Licensee may take appropriate steps to protect its interests. Until otherwise ordered by a court or agency of competent jurisdiction, the Issuing Authority agrees that, to the extent permitted by state and federal law, it shall deny access to any of Licensee's books and records marked confidential, as set forth above, to any Person.

12.4 Annual Performance Tests

Unless required otherwise by applicable State or federal law and/or regulation, the Licensee shall conduct, on an annual basis, performance tests to ensure compliance with applicable technical specifications. The costs of such tests shall be borne exclusively by the Licensee. Upon written request, the above tests shall be submitted to the Issuing Authority, or his designee(s).

12.5 Subscriber Complaint Report

In accordance with the regulations of the Cable Division, the Licensee shall submit annually a completed copy of Cable Division Form 500 to the Issuing Authority, or its designee, no later than thirty (30) days after submission of the Form to the Division.

12.6 Service Interruption Report

The Licensee shall annually submit a completed copy of Division Form 500 to the Issuing Authority, or its designee, reporting complaints and service interruptions, no later than thirty (30) days after it is submitted to the Cable Division, or if not required by or submitted to the Division, on a regular annual basis. The Licensee shall record written and verbal complaints from its Subscribers on said Form 500 to the extent required by applicable law or the Division. Licensee shall use the Cable Division's definition of complaint for complaint reporting purposes.

12.7 Quality of Service

In addition to other complaint resolution procedures under this License, the parties agree that in the event that the Issuing Authority receives at least eight written or e-mail complaints from Subscribers of which Licensee was previously notified by Subscriber or the Issuing Authority within 21 days regarding signal quality, the Issuing Authority will notify Licensee in writing and Licensee will report in writing to the Towns within twenty-one (21) days of such notice about the nature of the problem, if any, and the corrective action to be taken, if any. Said notice to the Licensee shall include the details of each complaint and the names of the complainants. Subsequent to such report, if no corrective action is taken and the Issuing Authority has reliable, credible evidence to indicate that Licensee is not meeting the technical specifications of this License, the Issuing Authority will have the right to require Licensee's senior engineer to test, analyze and report on signal quality within twenty-one (21) days specifically related to such complaints.

12.8 Additional Information

- (a) At any time during the term of this Renewal License, the Licensee shall not unreasonably deny any reasonable requests of the Issuing Authority for further information, which may be required to establish the Licensee's compliance with its obligations pursuant to this Renewal License.
- (b) Licensee shall file copies of financial forms required to be filed by law, including Forms 200 and 400.
- (c) Licensee shall file with the Issuing Authority a report containing the number of Subscribers in the Town. Said report shall be filed annually with the financial reports required pursuant to this section.
- (d) The Licensee shall make available to the Town, and copy at the Licensee's expense, copies of any petitions or communications filed by the Licensee with any state or federal agency or division pertaining to compliance with any material aspect of this License or pertaining to Licensee's compliance with any law or regulation which compliance affects Licensee's operation of the Cable System.

13 Community Programming

13.1 Service to Schools and Buildings

Upon written request of the Issuing Authority, the Licensee shall provide one (1) Subscriber Network Drop, one (1) Outlet with Basic Service and expanded basic service, without charge, to municipal schools, police and fire stations, municipal libraries, and other municipal buildings specifically designated in writing by the Issuing Authority. In addition, upon written request of the Issuing Authority, Licensee shall provide one Subscriber Network Drop, outlet, and Basic and Expanded Service without charge to newly constructed or newly occupied municipal or public school buildings. The Issuing Authority or its designee shall be responsible for the additional cost of a non-standard installation – an aerial installation in excess of two hundred feet (200') from the Licensee's feeder cable, and any underground installation. - based on additional actual costs incurred in the installation. The Licensee shall continue to provide, install and maintain free basic and expanded basic to all Municipal and school buildings being served at the inception of this agreement.

13.2 Limitations on Use

The Cable Service provided pursuant to Section 13.1 shall not be used for commercial purposes and such outlets shall not be located in areas used for viewership by the general public. The Issuing Authority or its Access Designee shall take reasonable precautions to prevent use of the Licensee's Cable System municipal and school building equipment provided pursuant to Section 13.1 that results in the inappropriate use thereof or any loss or damage to the Cable System.

13.3 Public, Educational and Government Access Channels

- The Licensee shall make available to the Issuing Authority or its Access Designee(s), at no charge, sufficient bandwidth for three (3) channels for PEG access-programming use. Use of these channels by the Town or schools and organizations or producers shall be strictly non-commercial in nature. Underwriting of the costs of access program production is permitted provided the sponsor(s) do not advertise on the programs. Underwriter acknowledgments similar to those appearing on public broadcast stations shall be permitted. These channels are to be maintained by licensee and signal quality must be maintained within FCC standards. Licensee shall provide and maintain one modulator for each of the three PEG channels.
- b) The Licensee shall provide, maintain and operate a PEG Channel origination network, at no charge to the Town or its Access Designee, as depicted in the diagram in Exhibit 13.3. This dedicated network, which shall be operational by April 30, 2011, will enable the upstream transmission of programming to the system headend for distribution to customers on the three PEG Access channels. The PEG origination sites will be located in three clusters: 1) the Town Hall (488 Chapin Street), the public safety complex (612 Chapin Street) and the High School (500 Chapin Street); 2) the DPW building (198 Sportsmen's Road); and 3) the Senior Center/Exit 7 Theater (37 Chestnut Street) and the School Administration Building (63 Chestnut Street).
- c) The PEG Channel origination network shall be operated in compliance with the System Technical Specifications found in FCC Part 76, Subpart K, 76.601 et seq. In the event that there are technical problems with the PEG Channel origination network, the Licensee and the Issuing Authority shall negotiate, in good faith, a resolution of any such problems, with such negotiation, if any, subject to Section 13.3(b) above, regarding Licensee's responsibility to provide, maintain and operate the PEG Channel origination network at no charge to the Town or its Access Designee. The Issuing Authority shall have the right to request a performance test of the network, should such problems persist.
- d) Licensee shall extend the PEG Channel origination network to additional municipal or PEG buildings designated by the Issuing Authority during the term of this License at Licensee's actual cost of said extension, which shall be borne by the Town with respect to additional sites. Licensee shall disclose such costs prior to construction. Any additional drop requests shall require cost reimbursement by the Town for Licensee's actual costs for time and materials. Construction, installation and activation of each

designated Drop and Outlet shall be completed within sixty (60) days of designation and design approval by the Town, for aerial Drops, and within ninety (90) days of designation and design approval by the Town, for underground Drops, weather permitting, or such later date as may be mutually agreed upon by the parties. The Licensee shall discuss the location of each connection with the appropriate officials in each of the buildings designated to receive a Drop or Outlet, prior to the installation of such a Drop or Outlet.

- The PEG Channel origination network shall be interconnected with the Subscriber Network in order that signals originating from PEG Channel origination points can be sent upstream and then switched to a downstream Subscriber Network channel. There shall be no charge to the Town for such switching; however, the foregoing does not preclude Licensee from externalizing costs in accordance with applicable law.
- f) The Licensee shall provide and maintain all necessary processing equipment in the Cable System headend and/or hub site in order to switch upstream channels from the PEG Access Channel origination network to the designated downstream Access Channel. Nothing herein shall require the Licensee to provide end-user equipment, however, Licensee shall continue to be responsible for providing and maintaining the modulators and demodulators for access channel use as provided as of the expiration of the prior License.

13.4 <u>Public, Educational And Governmental Access Equipment/ Facilities Fund</u> And Annual Grant

- (a) The Licensee shall provide two capital payments to the Town's special PEG Access account or PEG Access Designee, if so designated by the Issuing Authority in writing, in the amounts of \$115,000.00 to be payable within ninety (90) days of the Effective Date hereof; and \$118,000.00 to be payable within sixty (60) days of the commencement of the sixth year of this Renewal License, to be used to purchase, lease, and/or improve PEG Access equipment and facilities. This grant shall be considered as an external cost for the purposes of rate regulation to the extent consistent with applicable law; and may be passed on to the Subscribers and identified as a separate line item on the subscriber's monthly statement to the extent allowed by applicable law and regulation.
- (b) For the first two years of the Renewal License, the Licensee shall provide an annual payment to the Issuing Authority or PEG Access Designee for PEG Access operations in the amount of three and one-one-half percent (3.5%) of Gross Annual Revenues directly to a special PEG Account, not the general fund. Beginning with the third year of this 10-Year Renewal License, the Licensee shall provide an annual payment to the Issuing Authority or PEG Access Designee for PEG Access operations in the amount of four percent (4%) of Gross Annual Revenues directly to a special PEG Account, not the general fund. The first such annual payment shall be made no later than ninety days (90) after the Execution date of this License. Thereafter the Licensee shall make all subsequent annual operating payments no later than December 15th of each year. In no case shall this payment be counted against the equipment and facilities payment made pursuant to subparagraph (a) of this Section 13.4 above or against any franchise or license fee. This grant shall be considered as an external cost for the purposes of rate regulation and may be passed on to the subscribers and identified as a separate line item on the subscriber's monthly statement to the extent allowed by applicable law and regulation. The above annual payments shall be based on Licensee's Gross Annual Revenues for the calendar year immediately preceding any such payment, properly pro rated for any periods of less than one year. Licensee shall file with the Issuing Authority an annual statement of revenues itemizing in reasonable detail the sources of revenues by which Gross Annual Revenues are calculated and showing the calculation of the annual payment to the Town pursuant to this Section 13.4(b).
- c) The Issuing Authority or its Access Designee shall prepare an annual report for the preceding fiscal year which records how the annual payment for PEG operations was spent, and what amount remained unspent at the end of the fiscal year. This report shall be submitted to the Licensee annually by September 1st.
- (d) In the event that the payments required of Licensee under this Article 13 are not tendered on or before the dates fixed herein, interest due on such payments shall accrue from the date due at the rate of one percent (1%) above the Prime Rate.

13.5 Equipment Ownership And Maintenance

The Town or its Access Designee shall own all PEG access equipment and, accordingly, shall be responsible for maintenance, repair and replacement of all such PEG access equipment except Licensee shall be responsible for three modulators as provided in Section 13.3, and for any headend or hubsite equipment necessary for PEG access distribution, and for underlying distribution plant and video origination distribution plant as operated pursuant to this Renewal License. Ownership of equipment currently used by the Town and owned by Licensee, if any, shall pass to the Town upon the effective date of the License in Section 15.11.

13.6 Editorial Control

Neither the Licensee nor the Issuing Authority may engage in any editorial control of the content of the access programming on the Cable System, except as otherwise required or permitted by applicable Law. In furtherance thereof, the Town's Access Designee will require program producers to assume individual responsibility for any program-based liability, subject to the Cable Act, FCC requirements or other applicable law. Nothing herein shall be construed to limit the Licensee's right or ability to cablecast local programming at the Licensee's sole discretion on its own Channel(s). Notwithstanding that generally the Town, its Access Designee and Licensee are, with respect to Public Access programming, a conduit not engaging in pre-screening, and not subject to any publisher's liabilities for the content of individual members of the public, the Town and/or its Access Designee reserve such rights as are permitted, subject to applicable law, to adopt and implement lawful guidelines and policies to implement the foregoing, including but not limited to guidelines prohibiting obscenity, copyright violation and other forms of unprotected speech, all subject to due process; and guidelines and policies allowing lawful scheduling practices, disclaimers, disclosures, user forms and user agreements, and allowing adoption of other lawful program-related guidelines and policies, subject to applicable law.

13.7 Access Coordinator/Designee

- (a) The Access Designee, as designated by the Issuing Authority, shall be responsible for the provision of public, educational and governmental ("PEG") Access Programming to Subscribers, pursuant to the provisions of this Article 13 herein, and 47 U.S.C. 531. The Access Designee, currently known as Ludlow Community TV, shall provide services to PEG Access Users and the Town, as follows:
 - (1) Schedule, operate and program the PEG Access Channels provided in accordance with Section 13.3(a) above;
 - (2) Manage annual payments from Licensee and other funding, pursuant to Section 13.4 above;
 - (3) Purchase and/or lease facilities and equipment with funding pursuant to Section 13.4 above, including construction and/or relocation of facilities as needed;
 - (4) Conduct training programs in the skills necessary to produce PEG Access Programming;
 - (5) Provide technical assistance and production services to PEG Access Users;
 - (6) Establish rules, procedures and guidelines for use of the PEG Access Channels, subject to the terms of this Renewal License;
 - (7) Provide publicity, fundraising, outreach, referral and other support services to PEG Access Users;
 - (8) Assist Users in the production of Programming of interest to Subscribers including programming focusing on Town issues, events and activities; and
 - (9) Accomplish such other tasks relating to the operation, scheduling and/or management of the PEG Access Channels, facilities and equipment.

14 Enforcement Or Revocation

14.1 <u>Determination Of Breach</u>

- (a) In the event that the Issuing Authority has reason to believe that the Licensee has defaulted in the performance of any material provision of the Renewal License, except as excused by force majeure, the Issuing Authority shall notify the Licensee in writing, by certified mail, of the provision or provisions of which the Issuing Authority believes Licensee to be in default and the details relating thereto. The Licensee shall have thirty (30) days from the receipt of such notice to:
- (i) Respond to the Issuing Authority in writing, contesting the Issuing Authority's assertion of default and providing such information or documentation as may be necessary to support the Licensee's position; or
- (ii) Cure any such default within thirty (30) days of notice thereof, or, in the event that by nature of the default, such default cannot be cured within such thirty (30) day period, to take reasonable steps to cure said default and diligently continue such efforts until said default is cured.
- (b) In the event that the Licensee fails to respond to such notice of default, to cure the default or to take reasonable steps to cure the default, the Issuing Authority shall promptly schedule a public hearing no sooner than fourteen (14) days after a determination has been made by the Issuing Authority that Licensee has not appropriately responded, cured, nor taken appropriate measures to attempt to cure the default, and written notice, by certified mail, of such has been delivered to the Licensee. The Licensee shall be provided reasonable opportunity to offer evidence and be heard at such public hearing. If the Issuing Authority determines after public hearing that a continuing state of default exists, and that its cure is unlikely or untimely, Issuing Authority may determine to pursue any of the remedies available to it under law.
- (c) Within thirty (30) days after said public hearing, the Issuing Authority shall determine whether or not the licensee is in default of any provision of the Renewal License. In the event that the Issuing Authority, after public hearing, determines that a continuing state of default exists and that its cure is unlikely or untimely, the Issuing Authority may determine to pursue one of the following:
 - (i) seek specific performance of any provision in this Renewal License which reasonably lends itself to such remedy as an alternative to damages;
 - (ii) foreclose on all or any appropriate part of the security (performance bond) provided pursuant to sec. 4.3 herein;
 - (iii) declare the Renewal License to be revoked subject to Sec. 14.3 below and applicable law
 - (iv) invoke any other lawful remedy available to the Town.
- (d) No decision by the Issuing Authority or the Town to invoke any remedy under this License or under any statute, law or ordinance shall preclude the availability of injunctive relief or revocation remedies available under applicable laws.

14.2 Revocation Of Renewal License

In the event that the License fails to comply with any material provision of the Renewal License in any material fashion, the Issuing Authority may revoke the Renewal License granted, subject to the procedures of Law and the Renewal License and M.G.L. c 166A § 11, as it exists on the date hereof.

Upon revocation or termination, Issuing Authority may apply the provision of M.G.L. 166A § 5(f) and Section 627 of the Cable Act, which requires removal of the cable system.

14.3 Notice of Legal Action

Except in an emergency situation, in the event that the Licensee or the Issuing Authority intends to take legal action against the other party for any reason, it shall first (i) give the other party reasonable notice that an action will be filed, (ii) meet with the other party promptly before it files any such action, and (iii) negotiate the issue, which is the subject of any proposed legal action, in good faith with the other party and/or its representative(s).

14.4 No Waiver

- (a) Neither failure on the part of the Issuing Authority, the Town or the Licensee to exercise nor delay in exercising, any right in this Renewal License shall operate as a waiver thereof, nor shall either single or partial exercise of any such right preclude any other right, all subject to the conditions and limitations contained in this Renewal License.
- (b) The failure of the Issuing Authority or the Town to take any action in the event of any breach by the Licensee shall not be deemed or construed to constitute a waiver of or otherwise affect the right of the Issuing Authority or the Town to take any action permitted by this Renewal License at any other time in the event that such breach has not been cured, or with respect to any other breach by the Licensee.

15 Miscellaneous Provisions

15.1 Force Majeure

If by reason of *force majeure* either party is unable in whole or in part to carry out its obligations hereunder, said party shall not be deemed in violation or default during the continuance of such inability. The term "force majeure" as used herein shall mean the following: Acts of God; acts of public enemies; orders of any kind of the government of the United States of America or of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts or any of their departments, agencies, political subdivision, or officials, or any civil or military authority, whether legal or illegal; insurrections; riots; epidemics; landslides; lightening; earthquakes; fires; hurricanes; volcanic activity; storms; floods; washouts; droughts; civil disturbances; explosions; strikes; labor work actions and unavailability of essential equipment, personnel, services and/or materials beyond the reasonable control of the Licensee; and the inability of Licensee to obtain, on customary and reasonable terms, easements, permits or licenses for the attachment or placement of the System, or parts thereof, to any pole or underground conduit not owned by Licensee, or any other cause or event not reasonably within the control of the disabled party.

15.2 Action of Parties

In any action by the Issuing Authority or the Licensee that is mandated or permitted under the terms hereof, such party shall act in a reasonable, expeditious and timely manner. Furthermore, in any instance where approval or consent is required under the terms hereof, such approval or consent shall not be unreasonably withheld. During the term of the Renewal License, the Licensee shall be liable for the acts or omission of its Affiliates while such Affiliates are involved directly or indirectly in the construction, installation, maintenance or operation of the Cable System as if the acts or omissions of such Affiliates were the acts or omissions of the Licensee.

15.3 Notices

- a) Every notice and/or request to be served upon the Issuing Authority shall be delivered by hand or sent by Federal Express or other express receipted delivery service or certified mail (postage prepaid) to the Board of Selectmen, Town of Ludlow, Town Hall, 488 Chapin Street, Ludlow, Massachusetts 01056, or such other address as the Issuing Authority may specify in writing to the Licensee. Every notice served upon the Licensee shall be delivered by hand or sent by Federal Express or other express receipted delivery service or certified mail (postage prepaid) to the VP/General Manager, Charter Communications, 95 Higgins Street, Worcester, Massachusetts 01606, with a copy sent to General Counsel, Charter Communications, Inc., Charter Plaza 12405 Powerscourt Drive, St. Louis, Missouri 63131, or such other address as the Licensee may specify in writing to the Issuing Authority. The delivery shall be equivalent to direct personal notice, direction or order, and shall be deemed to have been given at the time of receipt of such notice. The parties may, by mutual agreement, consent to other forms of notice.
 - b) Subject to Section 15.3(a) above, all required notices shall be in writing.

15.4 Public Notice

Subject to and in accordance with 207 Code of Massachusetts Regulations 1.00 et seq., the Issuing Authority agrees to publish or cause to be published two newspaper notices in a newspaper of general circulation in the area with one such notice at least fourteen (14) days prior to a public hearing, and one such notice at least seven (7) days prior to a public hearing, for such public hearings requiring such notice as set forth in the aforesaid regulations of the Department of Telecommunications and Cable.

15.5 Severability

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of this Franchise is, for any reason, held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Franchise.

In any action by the Issuing Authority or the Licensee that is mandated or permitted under the terms hereof, such party shall act in a reasonable, expeditious and timely manner. Furthermore, in any instance where approval or consent is required under the terms hereof, such approval or consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.

15.6 Warranties

The Licensee warrants, represents and acknowledges that, as of the Effective Date of this License:

- a) The Licensee is duly organized, validly existing and in good standing under the laws of the State of Delaware;
- b) The Licensee has the requisite power and authority under applicable law and its by-laws and articles of incorporation and/or other organizational documents, has obtained any necessary authorization of its Board of Directors or other governing body, and has secured all consents which are required to be obtained as of the execution date of this License, to enter into and legally bind the Licensee to this License and to take all actions necessary to perform all of its obligations pursuant to this License;
- c) This License is enforceable against the Licensee in accordance with the provisions herein; and
- d) There is no action or proceeding pending or threatened against the Licensee, which would interfere with its performance of this License.

15.7 Administration of Franchise

. This Franchise is a contract and neither party may take any unilateral action that materially changes the explicit mutual promises and covenants contained herein. Any changes, modifications or amendments to this Franchise must be made in writing, signed by the Issuing Authority and the Licensee.

15.8 No Recourse Against The Issuing Authority

Pursuant to Section 635A (a) of the Cable Act, the Licensee shall have no recourse against the Issuing Authority, the Town and/or its officials, boards, commission, committees, advisors, designees, agents, and/or its employees other than injunctive relief or declaratory relief, arising from the regulation of cable service or from a decision of approval or disapproval with respect to a grant, renewal, transfer, or amendment of this Renewal License.

15.9 Jurisdiction

All provisions in this License shall apply to the Town, the Licensee and their successors and assigns. Jurisdiction and venue over any dispute, action or suit arising from this Renewal License shall be in any court of appropriate venue and subject matter jurisdiction located and the parties by this instrument subject themselves to the personal jurisdiction of said court for the entry of any such judgment and for the resolution of any dispute, action, or suit.

15.10 Entire Agreement

This Franchise sets forth the entire agreement between the parties respecting the subject matter hereof. All agreements, covenants, representations and warranties, express and implied, oral and written, of the parties with regard to the subject matter hereof are contained herein. No other agreements, covenants, representations or warranties, express or implied, oral or written, have been made by any party to another with respect to the matter of this Franchise. All prior and contemporaneous conversations, negotiations, possible and alleged agreements, representations, covenants and warranties with respect to the subject matter hereof are waived, merged herein and therein and superseded hereby and thereby.

15.11 Effective Date

The effective date of this Franchise shall be September 17, 2010. This Franchise shall expire on the tenth anniversary of the Effective Date, unless extended by the mutual agreement of the parties.

Considered and approved this 5 day of 2010.
Town of Ludlow
Chairman, Board of Selectmen
Member, Board of Selectmen
Member, Board of Selectmen
Member Board of Selectmen
Member, Board of Selectmen
Accepted this day of October, 2010, subject to applicable federal, state and local law. Approved as to form: Welliam August, Esq. Cable Counsel, Town of Ludlow
Charter Communications Entertainment I, DST l/k/a Charter Communications

Signature:

Schedules

- 5.5: 47 Code of Federal Regulations 76.30913.3 Diagram showing PEG Channel video origination network and technical description

Town of Ludlow, MA License Renewal

Schedule 5.5 47 Code of Federal Regulations 76.309

FCC Customer Service Obligations

TITLE 47--TELECOMMUNICATION

CHAPTER I--FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

PART 76--CABLE TELEVISION SERVICE

Subpart H--General Operating Requirements

Sec. 76.309 Customer Service Obligations

- (a) A cable Renewal License authority may enforce the customer service standards set forth in paragraph (c) of this section against cable operators. The Renewal License authority must provide affected cable operators ninety (90) days written notice of its intent to enforce the standards.
 - (b) Nothing in this rule should be construed to prevent or prohibit:
- (1) A Issuing authority and a cable operator from agreeing to customer service requirements that exceed the standards set forth in paragraph (c) of this section;
- (2) A Issuing authority from enforcing, through the end of the Renewal License term, preexisting customer service requirements that exceed the standards set forth in paragraph (c) of this section and are contained in current Renewal License agreements;
- (3) Any State or any Issuing authority from enacting or enforcing any consumer protection law, to the extent not specifically preempted herein; or
- (4) The establishment or enforcement of any State or municipal law or regulation concerning customer service that imposes customer service requirements that exceed, or address matters not addressed by the standards set forth in paragraph (c) of this section.
- (c) Effective July 1, 1993, a cable operator shall be subject to the following customer service standards:
 - (1) Cable system office hours and telephone availability--
- (i) The cable operator will maintain a local, toll-free or collect call telephone access line which will be available to its subscribers 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- (A) Trained company representatives will be available to respond to customer telephone inquiries during normal business hours.
- (B) After normal business hours, the access line may be answered by a service or an automated response system, including an answering Machine. Inquiries received after normal business hours must be responded to by a trained company representative on the next business day.
- (ii) Under normal operating conditions, telephone answer time by a customer representative, including wait time, shall not exceed thirty (30) seconds when the connection is made. If the call needs to be transferred, transfer time shall not exceed thirty (30) seconds. These standards shall

be met no less than ninety (90) percent of the time under normal operating conditions, measured on a quarterly basis.

- (iii) The operator will not be required to acquire equipment or perform surveys to measure compliance with the telephone answering standards above unless an historical record of complaints indicates a clear failure to comply.
- (iv) Under normal operating conditions, the customer will receive a busy signal less than three (3) percent of the time.
- (v) Customer service center and bill payment locations will be open at least during normal business hours and will be conveniently located.
- (2) Installations, outages and service calls. Under normal operating conditions, each of the following four standards will be met no less than ninety-five (95) percent of the time measured on a quarterly basis:
- (i) Standard installations will be performed within seven (7) business days after an order has been placed. "Standard" installations are those that are located up to 125 feet from the existing distribution system.
- (ii) Excluding conditions beyond the control of the operator, the cable operator will begin working on "service interruptions" promptly and in no event later than 24 hours after the interruption becomes known. The cable operator must begin actions to correct other service problems the next business day after notification of the service problem.
- (iii) The "appointment window" alternatives for installations, service calls, and other installation activities will be either a specific time or, at maximum, a four-hour time block during normal business hours. (The operator may schedule service calls and other installation activities outside of normal business hours for the express convenience of the customer.)
- (iv) An operator may not cancel an appointment with a customer after the close of business on the business day prior to the scheduled appointment.
- (v) If a cable operator representative is running late for an appointment with a customer and will not be able to keep the appointment as scheduled, the customer will be contacted. The appointment will be rescheduled, as necessary, at a time that is convenient for the customer.
 - (3) Communications between cable operators and cable subscribers--
 - (i) Notifications to subscribers--
- (A) The cable operator shall provide written information on each of the following areas at the time of installation of service, at least annually to all subscribers, and at any time upon request:
 - (1) Products and services offered;
- (2) Prices and options for programming services and conditions of subscription to rogramming and other services;
 - (3) Installation and service maintenance policies;
 - (4) Instructions on how to use the cable service;
 - (5) Channel positions programming carried on the system; and,
- (6) Billing and complaint procedures, including the address and telephone number of the local Renewal License authority's cable office.
- (B) Customers will be notified of any changes in rates, programming services or channel positions as soon as possible in writing. Notice must be given to subscribers a minimum of thirty (30) days in advance of such changes if the change is within the control of the cable operator. In addition, the cable operator shall notify subscribers thirty (30) days in advance of any significant changes in the other information required by paragraph (c)(3)(i)(A) of this section. Notwithstanding any other provision of Part 76, a cable operator shall not be required to provide

prior notice of any rate change that is the result of a regulatory fee, Renewal License fee, or any other fee, tax, assessment, or charge of any kind imposed by any Federal agency, State, or Issuing authority on the transaction between the operator and the subscriber.

- (ii) Billing--
- (A) Bills will be clear, concise and understandable. Bills must be fully itemized, with itemizations including, but not limited to, basic and premium service charges and equipment charges. Bills will also clearly delineate all activity during the billing period, including optional charges, rebates and credits.
- (B) In case of a billing dispute, the cable operator must respond to a written complaint from a subscriber within 30 days.
 - (iii) Refunds--Refund checks will be issued promptly, but no later than either--
- (A) The customer's next billing cycle following resolution of the request or thirty (30) days, whichever is earlier, or
- (B) The return of the equipment supplied by the cable operator if service is terminated.
- (iv) Credits--Credits for service will be issued no later than the customer's next billing cycle following the determination that a credit is warranted.
 - (4) Definitions--
- (i) Normal business hours--The term "normal business hours" means those hours during which most similar businesses in the community are open to serve customers. In all cases, "normal business hours" must include some evening hours at least one night per week and/or some weekend hours.
- (ii) Normal operating conditions--The term "normal operating conditions" means those service conditions which are within the control of the cable operator. Those conditions which are not within the control of the cable operator include, but are not limited to, natural disasters, civil disturbances, power outages, telephone network outages, and severe or unusual weather conditions. Those conditions which are ordinarily within the control of the cable operator include, but are not limited to, special promotions, pay-per-view events, rate increases, regular peak or seasonal demand periods, and maintenance or upgrade of the cable system.
- (iii) Service interruption--The term "service interruption" means the loss of picture or sound on one or more cable channels.

Schedule 13.3 PEG Channel Origination Network

