

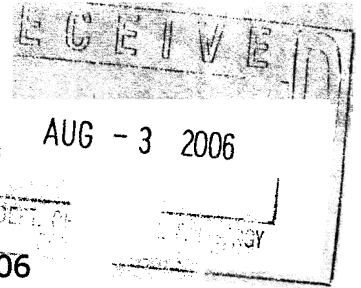
CTV 06-1, comments

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Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Department of Telecommunications and Energy
One South Station
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To Whom It May Concern:

As a follower of new technologies and business practices, I have been watching with interest as Verizon makes a push to enter the Cable TV market here in Massachusetts. Whereas I am somewhat excited about what new advances may be available in Verizon's end product, I am disappointed in their attempts to carve out new rules and regulations for themselves.

The fact that Verizon is seeking to avoid negotiating with local communities through their current application with DTE has for the most part been defended with the battle cry of; "we need more competition now and cannot wait the time it would take to negotiate with each community." If this is true, why did I see a Verizon commercial on T.V. Monday night offering consumers discounted "packages" if you signed up for their phone, internet and satellite TV services all together. If they are making a satellite TV service available to their customers now what is the rush that we need to eliminate local control over.

As I said, I have been watching this strategy on behalf of Verizon as it continues to play out and until now felt comfortable as an interested spectator. The hypocrisy that rang out through my own TV the other night, however, has compelled me to write to you today. Verizon is offering a 3 service package competing with Comcast in every town in Massachusetts RIGHT NOW. Do not allow them to manipulate state regulations and avoid a partnership with municipalities simply to help their business plan.

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