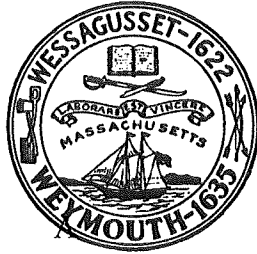


*Town of Weymouth  
Massachusetts*

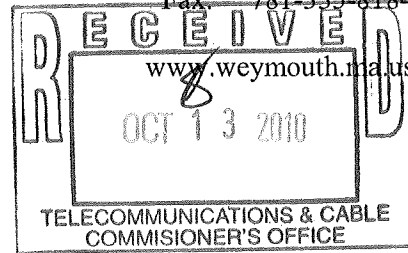
Susan M. Kay  
Mayor

75 Middle Street  
Weymouth, MA 02189



Office: 781-340-5012

Fax: 781-335-8184



August 3, 2010

Geoffrey Why, Director  
Department of Telecommunications and Cable  
1000 Washington Street, Suite 820  
Boston, MA 02118

Re: City of Weymouth, Comments re: Comcast Cable Rate Regulation Proceedings,  
Docket No. DTC 09-6

Dear Director Why:

I am writing in my capacity as Mayor and cable license Issuing Authority of the City of Weymouth, and as an Intervener in the Department's rate case (Docket 09-6), to formally protest Comcast's extremely dramatic rate increases.

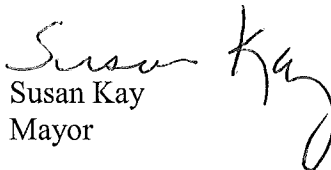
As shown on Comcast's rate increase notification form, the price of Digital Classic was increased by an enormous 21 percent, from \$13.95 to \$16.95 effective February 24, 2010. Digital Preferred had a 21 percent increase from \$13.95 to \$16.95. All the other digital tiers likewise had a \$3.00 increase, which casts doubt on whether such increases were cost-based. Had the increases been cost-based, it is highly unlikely that each digital tier would have an identical three dollar increase. I am well aware that the Department cannot legally review the magnitude of increases within the so-called expanded service 'digital tiers,' however, I believe that when we witness increases of this magnitude, it is relevant to the overall context of the rate proceeding, and raises other important public policy issues for your consideration, as explained below.

When rates increase by more than 20 percent in a single year, and the consumer price index has only increased by a much, much lesser amount, I believe this is strong evidence of a lack of meaningful competition in cable and video markets. Even the entry level basic service tier, considered by many to be a 'life-line' for lower income cable subscribers was raised by 9.75%, from \$8.30 to \$9.11. This apparent lack of competition and/or market failure, and the resulting rate spikes, underscore the need for the Department to give Comcast's rate filings in Weymouth the fullest and closest scrutiny, to protect consumers and the public interest, especially in these times of great financial difficulty. Given the fundamental importance of price stability to the economy as a whole, we urge the Cable Division to diligently discharge its job of regulating Weymouth's rates to the maximum extent practicable, and to proactively take steps to further stabilize rates.

Finally, on a technical matter, this letter will confirm the statements of Comcast to Attorney Bill August, the Town's cable counsel, that no expense arising from Comcast's senior discount for Weymouth subscribers will be passed through to any Weymouth or other subscribers. Comcast also stated a willingness to consider clarifying that senior discounts are not included in the rate structure.

Please be so kind as to enter these comments in the above-captioned proceedings. As always, please do not hesitate to contact me or Attorney Bill August should you require any further information about this matter. Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Very truly yours,

  
Susan Kay  
Mayor

cc: George Lane, Jr., Esq.  
Bill August, Esq.