



**BROADBAND
WITHOUT
BOUNDARIES**

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January 22, 2026

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
45 L Street, NE
Washington, DC 20554

Re: ***Applications Filed for the Transfer of Control of Cox Communications, Inc. to Charter Communications, Inc.
WC Docket No. 25-233
Notice of Ex Parte Presentation***

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On January 20, 2026, representatives of WISPA – *The Association for Broadband Without Boundaries* (“WISPA”) met by video conference with Jonathan Uriarte, Strategic Communications and Policy Advisor to FCC Commissioner Anna Gomez, to discuss an internal policy that Charter Communications, Inc. (“Charter”) appears to be applying to the detriment of rural broadband providers and the communities they serve. Attending the meeting on behalf of WISPA were: David Zumwalt, WISPA President & CEO; Louis Peraertz, WISPA Vice President of Policy; Josh Luthman, Chairman of the WISPA Board of Directors; and Stephen Coran, outside counsel to WISPA. Out of an abundance of caution, WISPA is providing a summary of that meeting in the above-referenced docket.

The purpose of the meeting was to make Commissioner Gomez’ office aware that Charter has apparently adopted an internal policy to not renew contracts for upstream wholesale services with wireless internet service providers (“WISPs”) and to not enter into any new contracts for those services with WISPs. In rural areas where there are no or few other options for these services, Charter’s internal policy could have the effect of cutting off internet service to the communities WISPA’s members serve or increasing costs resulting from a reduction in competition for upstream wholesale services. We noted that the policy could be applied more broadly following the proposed merger of Cox Communications, Inc. and Charter.

We made clear our understanding that Charter is not acting as a provider of “telecommunications” with respect to the provision of services to WISPs and that the current Commission may not want to require Charter to extend or enter into contracts for these upstream wholesale services with third parties. That being said, the Commission could apply conditions on its approval of the transaction that would require such contracts to address a transaction-specific harm under longstanding statutory and precedential authority. In addition, given the public interest benefits of preserving connections between rural broadband providers and the internet, the Commission should be aware of and monitor marketplace activities that could threaten access to the internet in rural communities.

Reliable Broadband Service Today and Tomorrow



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Pursuant to Section 1.1206 of the Commission's Rules, this letter is being filed via ECFS in the above-referenced docket. Please contact the undersigned with any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Louis Peraertz

Louis Peraertz, Vice President of Policy

cc: Jonathan Uriarte
David Zumwalt
Josh Luthman
Stephen Coran

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