



Agenda Date: 12/18/13
Agenda Item: IIC

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Avenue, 9th Floor
Post Office Box 350
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350
www.nj.gov/bpu/

CABLE TELEVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF)
COMCAST OF SOUTH JERSEY, LLC FOR A)
RENEWAL CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL TO)
CONTINUE TO CONSTRUCT, OPERATE AND)
MAINTAIN A CABLE TELEVISION SYSTEM IN)
AND FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF WASHINGTON,)
COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER, STATE OF NEW)
JERSEY)
AUTOMATIC RENEWAL)
CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL)
DOCKET NO. CE10070502)

Parties of Record:

Dennis C. Linken, Esq., Scarinci & Hollenbeck, LLC, for the Petitioner
Mary Lou Bergh, Clerk, Township of Washington, New Jersey

BY THE BOARD:

On July 25, 1980, the Board granted Community Cable Systems, Inc. of South Jersey ("Community Cable") a Certificate of Approval in Docket No. 7910C-6556 for the construction, operation and maintenance of a cable television system in the Township of Washington ("Township"). On October 17, 1986, the Board approved the transfer of the Certificate from Community Cable to Cable TV Fund 14-A, Ltd. d/b/a Jones Intercable, Inc. ("Jones"), in Docket No. CM86090979. On September 22, 1995, the Board granted Jones a Renewal Certificate of Approval for the Township in Docket No. CE95060262. Through a series of transfers approved by the Board, Comcast Cablevision of South Jersey, Inc. became the holder of the Certificate. On April 20, 2005, the Board issued Comcast Cablevision of South Jersey, Inc. an order of Amendment of a Renewal Certificate of Approval for the Township in Docket No. CE04070697. Based on a name change, Comcast of South Jersey, LLC ("Petitioner") is the current holder of the Certificate. Although the Petitioner's above referenced Certificate expired on July 25, 2010, the Petitioner is authorized to continue to provide cable television service to the Township, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:5A-25, pending disposition of proceedings regarding the renewal of its Certificate.

On June 24, 2010, the Petitioner notified the Township of its intention to exercise its right under the automatic renewal provision of the Township's municipal consent and the Renewal Certificate of Approval. On July 28, 2010, the Petitioner filed with the Board for Automatic

Renewal of its Certificate of Approval for the Township, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:5A-16, -19 and -25 and N.J.A.C. 14:17-6.9 and 14:18-13.6. The filing indicates that on March 24, 2004, the Township adopted an ordinance amending its municipal consent ordinance of April 27, 1995. Subsequently, on May 26, 2004, the Township adopted a second amendment to the ordinance. On June 28, 2004, the Petitioner accepted the amended ordinances which provided in part, for an automatic renewal term of ten years.

The Board has reviewed the petition for an Automatic Renewal Certificate of Approval and the Application filed therein by the Petitioner. Based upon this review and the recommendation of the Office of Cable Television, the Board **HEREBY FINDS** the following:

1. The Petitioner possesses the requisite legal, character, financial and technical qualifications for the awarding of a Certificate of Approval.
2. The design and technical specifications of the system shall ensure that the Petitioner provides safe, adequate and proper service.
3. The Petitioner has represented that all previously required construction within the franchise territory is complete.
4. The franchise period as stated in the ordinance is 10 years. The Board finds this franchise period reasonable.
5. The Petitioner shall provide service to any residence along any public right-of-way in the Primary Service Area, at no cost beyond standard and non-standard installation charges. The Primary Service Area was defined in the Board's September 22, 1995 Renewal Certificate of Approval as all currently existing residential areas of the Township as existed at the time of adoption of the Township's April 27, 1995 municipal consent ordinance, and shall include any other area where the Petitioner has extended feeder cable to serve residents as designated on the map on file with the Township and the OCTV. For any extension outside of the Primary Service Area, the Petitioner shall utilize the line extension policy attached to the Certificate. The minimum homes per mile figure is 35.
6. The Petitioner's rates shall be regulated and tariffs shall be filed for all services, in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Federal Communications Commission, the Board and the Office of Cable Television. The Petitioner shall maintain and file with the Board, informational schedules of prices, terms and conditions for unregulated service, and promptly file any revisions thereto.
7. Pursuant to statutory requirements, the ordinance specifies a complaint officer to receive and act upon complaints filed by subscribers in the Township. In this case, it is the Office of Cable Television. All complaints shall be received and processed in accordance with any applicable rules.
8. The Petitioner shall maintain a local business office or agent for the purpose of receiving, investigating and resolving complaints. The Petitioner currently maintains a local office at 3501 Route 42, Turnersville, New Jersey.
9. The franchise fee to be paid to the Township is specified to be 2% of the Petitioner's gross revenues from all recurring charges in the nature of subscription fees paid by

subscribers for its cable television reception service in the Township or any additional amount required by N.J.S.A. 48:5A-30. Additional regulatory fees shall be paid to the State in an amount not to exceed 2% of Petitioner's gross operating revenues derived from intrastate operations. The Board finds these fees to be reasonable.

10. The Petitioner shall provide public, educational, and governmental access equipment and facilities as described in the application and the ordinance. The Petitioner shall continue to provide a dedicated educational/governmental access channel for the Township, to be managed and operated by the Township. The Petitioner shall continue to provide a two-way fiber run from the Township's High School on Hurfville-Cross Keys Road to the Turnersville head-end facility and the dedication of the channel on the nodes that feed the Township.
11. The Petitioner shall provide installation and Tier one monthly cable service or a similar tier of cable television service, on one outlet, free of charge, to all qualified municipal facilities, schools and libraries in the Township, which shall include fire stations and senior citizen community halls. Additional outlets shall be paid for at regular tariffed rates by the institution requesting those services.

Based upon these findings, the Board **HEREBY CONCLUDES**, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:5A-17(a) and 28(c), that the Petitioner has the municipal consent necessary to support the petition, that such consent and issuance thereof are in conformity with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 48:5A-1 et seq., that the Petitioner has complied or is ready, willing and able to comply with all applicable rules and regulations imposed by or pursuant to State and Federal law as preconditions for engaging in the proposed cable television operations, that the Petitioner has sufficient financial and technical capacity, meets the legal, character and other qualifications necessary to construct, maintain and operate the necessary installations, lines and equipment, and that the Petitioner is capable of providing the proposed service in a safe, adequate and proper manner.

Therefore, the Petitioner is **HEREBY ISSUED** this Renewal Certificate of Approval as evidence of Petitioner's authority to construct and operate a cable television system within the entirety of the Township.

This Renewal Certificate is subject to all applicable State and Federal laws, the rules and regulations of the Office of Cable Television, and any such lawful terms, conditions and limitations as currently exist or may hereafter be attached to the exercise of the privileges granted herein. The Petitioner shall adhere to the operating standards set forth by the Federal Communications Commission's rules and regulations, 47 C.F.R. § 76.1 et seq. including but not limited to, the technical standards 47 C.F.R. § 76.601 through § 76.630. Any modifications to the provisions thereof shall be incorporated into this Certificate.

Failure to comply with all applicable laws, rules, regulations and orders of the Board or the Office of Cable Television and/or the terms, conditions and limitations set forth herein may constitute sufficient grounds for the suspension or revocation of this Certificate.

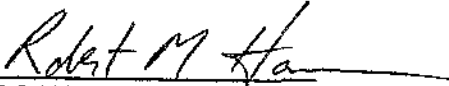
This Renewal Certificate is issued on the representation that the statements contained in the Petitioner's applications are true, and the undertakings therein contained shall be adhered to and be enforceable unless specific waiver is granted by the Office of Cable Television pursuant to the authority contained in N.J.S.A. 48:5A-1 et seq.

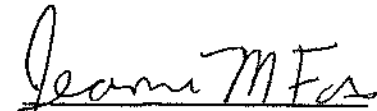
This Certificate shall expire July 25, 2020.

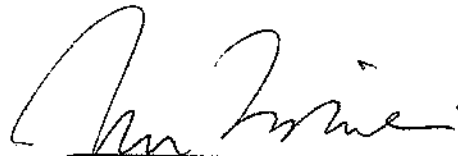
This Order shall be effective on December 30, 2013.

DATED: 12/18/13


BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
BY:


ROBERT M. HANNA
PRESIDENT


JEANNE M. FOX
COMMISSIONER


JOSEPH L. FIORDALISO
COMMISSIONER



MARY-ANNA HOLDEN
COMMISSIONER


DIANNE SOLOMON
COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:


KRISTI IZZO
SECRETARY

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the within
document is a true copy of the original
in the files of the Board of Public
Utilities



APPENDIX "I"
Office of Cable Television
Line Extension Policy

Company Comcast of South Jersey, LLC
Municipality Township of Washington

A cable operator is required to absorb the cost of extensions to the system in the same proportion that the extension is to the remainder of the system.

Actual subscribers served by the extension are required to absorb the remainder of the cost.

If new subscribers are added to the extension the cost is adjusted and those who previously paid receive an appropriate rebate.

1. # of homes in extension = homes per mile (HPM)
mileage of extension of extension

2. HPM of extension = ratio of the density
Minimum HPM that of the extension to the
company actually minimum density which the
constructs in the company constructs in the
system * system ("A")

3. Total cost of building = company's share of
the extension times "A" extension cost

4. Total cost of building = total amount to be
extension less company's recovered from
share of extension cost subscribers

5. Total amount to be = each subscriber's share
recovered from subs
Total subscribers in
extension

In any case, the company shall extend its plant along public rights of way to:

1. All residences and businesses within 150 aerial feet of the operator's existing plant at no cost beyond the normal installation rate.

2. All residences and businesses within 100 underground feet of the operator's plant at no cost beyond the normal installation rate.

* The minimum HPM that the company actually constructs in the system or municipality is the minimum number of homes which the company has historically constructed at its own cost. This is a function of the operator's breakeven point and its rate of return. Unbuilt systems will use the primary service area rather than construction.

The operator's installation policies shall apply to construction beyond the public right of way.

Detailed accounting and/or financial information to support the minimum HPM shall be supplied to the Office for its approval in such form as required. The minimum HPM shall be updated as appropriate.

When a request for service is received, and unless good cause is shown, cable companies shall:

1. Provide a written estimate within 30 days of such a request.
2. Begin construction within 60 days of receipt of any deposit monies from potential subscribers.
3. Complete construction within six months of receipt of any deposit monies from potential subscribers.
4. Inform each home passed along the extension of the potential costs for subscribers.

Subscribers who pay for an extension shall be entitled to rebates in the following manner:

1. If the company acquires new subscribers subsequent to the initial calculation of step 5 above, the formula will be adjusted and those who have previously paid for the extension will be entitled to an appropriate rebate. In no event shall the amount of the rebate exceed the subscriber's contribution.
2. The company shall keep accurate records of the cost of the extension, the amounts paid by subscribers and any appropriate adjustments.
3. The company shall notify subscribers in the extension of their rights and responsibilities concerning the extension.
4. Once an individual dwelling has paid its share of the extension cost future reconnections or installations shall be made at the company's standard rates.
5. After a period of five years from the installation of the first dwelling unit in the extension no further adjustments shall be made. Installations after five years shall be at the company's standard rate.
6. Once a subscriber is installed, that person shall not normally be entitled to a refund of any monies paid for the installations, except in accordance with the rebate procedure outlined in this policy.

Definitions

Primary Service Area

The Primary Service Area (PSA) can be an entire municipality but in many instances, the PSA is a limited area within a community outside of which a line extension policy may apply. The PSA is depicted by a franchise map and narrative, presented and recorded during the franchise proceedings. It normally remains a fixed geographic area throughout the life of the franchise.

Line Extension Survey

Potential subscribers residing outside the PSA who request service are entitled to an estimate of their share of the cost to secure service. When conducting a survey and estimating costs, a cable company should factor-in all potential subscribers who could practicably be included in the extension and give consideration to apparent residential construction in areas contiguous to the proposed extension.

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DOCKET NO. CE10070502

SERVICE LIST

Dennis C. Linken, Esq.
Scarinci & Hollenbeck
Post Office Box 790
Lyndhurst, NJ 07071-0790

Mary Lou Bergh, Clerk
Township of Washington
Post Office Box 1106
Turnersville, NJ 08012-0876

Fred DeAndrea
Area Director Government and Community
Affairs
Comcast
1191 Fries Mill Road
Franklinville, NJ 08322

Lawanda R. Gilbert, Acting Director
State of New Jersey
Board of Public Utilities
Office of Cable Television
44 South Clinton Avenue, 9th Floor
Post Office Box 350
Trenton, NJ 08625-0350

Nancy J. Wolf
Administrative Analyst I
State of New Jersey
Board of Public Utilities
Office of Cable Television
44 South Clinton Avenue, 9th Floor
Post Office Box 350
Trenton, NJ 08625-0350

Geoffrey R. Gersten
Deputy Attorney General
State of New Jersey
Department of Law & Public Safety
Division of Law
124 Halsey Street
Post Office Box 45029
Newark, NJ 07101-45029