



Agenda Date: 12/18/13  
Agenda Item: III E

**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/](http://www.nj.gov/bpu/)

CABLE TELEVISION

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF CSC TKR, )  
LLC D/B/A CABLEVISION OF MORRIS FOR ) RENEWAL CERTIFICATE OF  
RENEWAL OF A CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL TO ) APPROVAL  
CONTINUE TO OPERATE AND MAINTAIN A CABLE )  
TELEVISION SYSTEM IN THE BOROUGH OF )  
HOPATCONG, COUNTY OF SUSSEX, STATE OF )  
NEW JERSEY ) DOCKET NO. CE13080740

**Parties of Record:**

**James Eric Andrews, Esq.**, Schenck, Price, Smith & King, LLP, for the Petitioner  
**Catherine Gleason, Clerk**, Borough of Hopatcong, New Jersey

**BY THE BOARD:**

On April 1, 1982, the Board of Public Utilities ("Board") granted Sammons Cable TV, Inc. ("Sammons") a Certificate of Approval in Docket No. 804C-6675 for the construction, operation and maintenance of a cable television system in the Borough of Hopatcong ("Borough"). On September 1, 1993, the Board granted Sammons a Renewal Certificate of Approval for the Borough in Docket No. CE92020112. Through a series of transfers with required Board approvals, the holder of the Certificate became CSC TKR, Inc. d/b/a Cablevision of Morris ("Cablevision"). On September 5, 2002, the Board granted Cablevision a Renewal Certificate of Approval for the Borough in Docket No. CE02060326. Based on a name change, the Certificate is currently held by CSC TKR, LLC d/b/a Cablevision of Morris ("Petitioner"). Although by its terms the Petitioner's above referenced Certificate expired on April 1, 2012, the Petitioner is authorized to continue to provide cable television service to the Borough pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:5A-25, pending disposition of proceedings regarding the renewal of its Certificate of Approval.

The Petitioner filed an application for the renewal of its municipal consent with the Borough on July 14, 2011, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:5A-23 and N.J.A.C. 14:18-13.1 et seq. On December 5, 2012, the Borough adopted a municipal ordinance granting renewal consent to the Petitioner. On May 16, 2013, the Petitioner formally accepted the terms and conditions of the ordinance. On August 19, 2013, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:5A-16, the Petitioner filed with the Board for a renewal of its Certificate of Approval for the Borough.

The Board has reviewed the application for municipal consent, the petition for a Renewal Certificate of Approval and the municipal consent ordinance. 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 Renewal Certificate of Approval. Further, the Borough reviewed these qualifications in conjunction with the municipal consent process.
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 ten years from the date of issuance of this Certificate. The Board finds this duration to be reasonable.
5. 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 an informational schedule of prices, terms and conditions for unregulated service and promptly file any revisions thereto.
6. Pursuant to statutory requirements, the ordinance specifies a complaint officer to receive and act upon complaints filed by subscribers in the Borough. In this case, it is the Office of Cable Television. All complaints shall be received and processed in accordance with the applicable rules.
7. The Petitioner shall maintain a local business office or agent for the purpose of receiving, investigating and resolving complaints. The current local office is located at 683 Route 10 East, Randolph, New Jersey.
8. The franchise fee to be paid to the Borough 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 Borough and shall be increased as 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.
9. The Petitioner shall provide service to any residence or business along any public right-of-way in the Borough designated as built in its application (Primary Service Area) at no cost beyond standard and non-standard installation. For any extension outside of the Primary Service Area, the Petitioner shall utilize the line extension policy ("LEP") attached to the Certificate as Appendix "I" with a homes per mile of 25.
10. The Petitioner shall provide public, educational and governmental access channels and facilities in accordance with its renewal application and the ordinance. As specified in the application, the Petitioner maintains a system-wide non-commercial community/governmental access channel, which is shared with its community message board. Additionally, the County College of Morris is currently in charge of a system-wide educational access channel and coordinates educational access programming for itself and for the Petitioner's franchised municipalities. The Petitioner maintains a public access studio in Randolph

Township, which has video and audio recording/playback equipment for public access use. The Petitioner offers interested community members workshops in the aspects of operating a studio.

11. The Petitioner shall provide the Borough with a grant for cable and/or telecommunications related purposes and/or for the support of PEG access programming in the total amount of \$20,000.00. The grant is to be paid as follows: \$4,025.00 within 60 days of issuance of this Certificate; and within 90 days from receipt of written request of the Borough, the Petitioner shall provide an additional grant payment of \$1,775.00 annually for the following nine years. The Petitioner shall be relieved of any payments if it converts its system to a system-wide franchise as provided by N.J.S.A. 48:5A-25.1(a). Upon payment of each portion of the contribution, the Petitioner shall provide the Office of Cable Television with proof of satisfaction of this obligation.
12. The Petitioner shall provide one standard installation and monthly basic cable service, free of charge, to all state or locally accredited public schools in the Borough: Hudson Maxim Elementary School; Durban Avenue Elementary School; Hopatcong High School; Hopatcong Middle School; and Tulsa Trail Elementary School; to all municipal public libraries, as well as to the following municipal buildings located within the Borough: Municipal Building and Police Department, 111 River Styx Road; Hopatcong Fire Company, Maxim Road; Fire Department, Jefferson Trail; Hopatcong Senior Civic Center, 32 Lakeside Boulevard; DPW, 120 River Styx Road; and Hopatcong Defiance Engine Company No. 3, 43 Hopatchung Road.
13. Upon written request of the Borough, the Petitioner shall provide, free of charge, one high-speed cable modem and monthly Internet access service, including standard installation, to all state and locally accredited public schools, all municipal public libraries as well as to one municipally-owned facility.
14. The Petitioner shall offer a discount in the amount of 10% off the basic monthly rate of broadcast basic service to senior citizens meeting the eligibility requirements of the Pharmaceutical Assistance to the Aged and Disabled program, as allowed by N.J.S.A. 48:5A-11.2. The Petitioner shall have no further obligation to provide the senior discount in the event it converts its system to a system-wide franchise as provided by N.J.S.A. 48:5A-25.1(a) or if the Board certifies another cable television company as being capable of serving 60 percent or more of the household in the Borough. Notice shall be provided in accordance with applicable law.

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 or 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 Borough.

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 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 of 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 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 contained therein shall be adhered to and 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 on December 30, 2023.

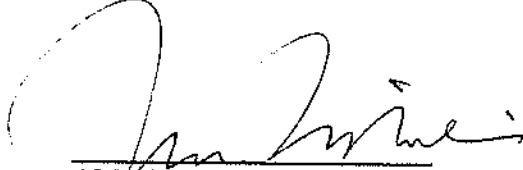
This order shall be effective on December 30, 2013.

DATED: 12/18/13

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES  
BY:

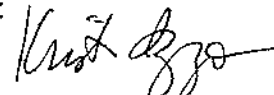
  
ROBERT M. HANNA  
PRESIDENT

  
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**

**CSC TKR, LLC D/B/A CABLEVISION OF MORRIS**  
**BOROUGH OF HOPATCONG**

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. | <u># of homes in extension</u><br>mileage of extension                                     | = | Homes per mile (HPM) of extension   |
| 2. | <u>HPM of extension</u><br>Minimum HPM that company actually constructs in the system      | = | Ratio of the density of the extension to the minimum density which the company constructs in the system ("A") |
| 3. | Total cost of building the extension times "A"   | = | Company's share of extension cost   |
| 4. | Total cost of building extension less company's share of extension cost                    | = | Total amount to be recovered from subscribers   |
| 5. | <u>Total amount to be recovered from subscribers</u><br>Total subscribers in the extension | = | Each subscriber's share   |

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 that the company has historically constructed at its own cost. This is a function of the operator's break-even 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 the share of the extension cost for an individual dwelling has been paid, 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.

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF CSC TKR, LLC D/B/A CABLEVISION OF MORRIS  
FOR RENEWAL OF A CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL TO CONTINUE TO OPERATE AND  
MAINTAIN A CABLE TELEVISION SYSTEM IN THE BOROUGH OF HOPATCONG, COUNTY  
OF SUSSEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
BPU DOCKET NO. CE13080740

SERVICE LIST

James Eric Andrews, Esq.  
Schenck, Price, Smith & King  
Post Office Box 991  
Florham Park, NJ 07932-0991

Catherine Gleason  
Borough Clerk  
Borough of Hopatcong  
111 River Styx Road  
Hopatcong, NJ 07843

Adam Falk, Vice President  
Government and Public Affairs  
Cablevision Systems Corporation  
1111 Stewart Avenue  
Bethpage, NY 11714-3581

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

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

Karen A. Marlowe  
Administrative Analyst I  
State of New Jersey  
Board of Public Utilities  
Office of Cable Television  
44 South Clinton Avenue, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Post Office Box 350  
Trenton, NJ 08625-0350