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February 20, 2020

Via FedEx Overnight Mail

Aida Camacho-Welch, Secretary Board of Public Utilities 44 South Clinton Avenue 9th Floor Trenton, NJ 08625



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FEB 2 1 2020

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES TRENTON, NJ

CE20020155

Re: In the Matter of the Petition of Comcast of Gloucester County, LLC, for a Renewal Certificate of Approval to Continue to Construct, Operate and Maintain a Cable Television System in and for the Borough of Paulsboro, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Our File No. 41000.3000

Dear Secretary Camacho-Welch:

Enclosed herewith please find the original and eleven (11) copies of the Verified Petition and Verification filed on behalf of Comcast of Gloucester County, LLC ("Comcast"), along with three (3) copies of Comcast's public Application for Renewal of a Certificate of Approval ("Application"), with respect to the above-referenced matter. Said copies of the Application have been redacted so as to protect certain confidential information contained therein. Confidential copies of the Application are being submitted simultaneously under separate cover, along with Comcast's request for confidential treatment, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 14:1-12 et seq.

Kindly file the Petition and Application and please return the extra copy of this letter, Petition and documents stamped "RECEIVED" in the self-addressed, stamped envelope provided herein.

Thank you for your kind consideration. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Very truly yours,

Laura M. Miller

For the Firm LMM/dp

cc/w/enc. Lawanda R. Gilbert, Director (via FedEx)

Nancy J. Wolf, Administrative Analyst 4 (via FedEx)

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Stefanie A. Brand, Director (via first class mail)

Kathy A. VanScoy, Borough Clerk (via first class mail

Fred J. DeAndrea, Senior Director of Government & Regulatory Affairs (via email)

STATE OF NEW JERSEY BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES OFFICE OF CABLE TELEVISION & TELECOMMUNICATIONS

SCARINCI & HOLLENBECK, LLC		
1100 Valley Brook Avenue		
Lyndhurst, NJ 07071-0790		
Phone: 201-896-4100		
Attorneys for Petitioner Comcast of Gloucester County, LLC File No. 41000.3000		
IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF	j –	
COMCAST OF GLOUCESTER COUNTY, LLC,)	
FOR A CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL TO)	VERIFIED PETITION
CONTINUE TO CONSTRUCT, OPERATE AND)	
MAINTAIN A CABLE TELEVISION SYSTEM)	
IN AND FOR THE BOROUGH OF)	Docket No
PAULSBORO, COUNTY OF GLOUCESTER,)	
STATE OF NEW JERSEY)	
)	

Comcast of Gloucester County, LLC ("Comcast" or "Petitioner"), hereby petitions the Honorable Board of Public Utilities (the "Board"), pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:5A-15, 16, and 17, and N.J.A.C. 14:18-13.6, for renewal of a Certificate of Approval to continue to construct, operate and maintain its cable television system ("System") in the Borough of Paulsboro, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey ("Borough" or "Paulsboro"). In support of its Petition, Petitioner states as follows:

COUNT ONE

1. Comcast, a limited liability company duly organized under the laws of the State of Delaware, is a cable television company subject to the jurisdiction of the Office of Cable Television & Telecommunications ("OCTV&T") and the Board, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:5A-1 et seq.

4831-9163-6400, v. 1 Page 1 of 7

- Comcast maintains its principal offices at 1250 Haddonfield-Berlin Rd., Cherry Hill, New Jersey 08034.
- 3. On or about January 17, 1980, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:5A-17(a) and (b), and N.J.S.A. 48:5A-28(c), the Board issued a Certificate of Approval to Gloucester County CATV Associates ("Gloucester Cable") to construct, operate and maintain a cable system in the Borough in Docket No. 7911C-6576. A copy of said Certificate of Approval is on file at the OCTV&T.
- 4. Pursuant to authorization granted by the Board in its Order of Approval dated May 29, 1980, in Docket No. 805C-6680, the System owned and operated by Gloucester Cable, including the Certificate of Approval pertaining to the Borough, was transferred to Comcast (previously known as Storer Cable Communications of Gloucester County, Inc.).
- 5. On or about April 13, 1995, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:5A-17(a) and (b), and 28(c), the Board issued a Renewal Certificate of Approval to Comcast in Docket No. CE94110552 to construct, operate and maintain the System in the Borough. A copy of said Renewal Certificate of Approval is on file at the OCTV&T.
- 6. On or about April 27, 2006, in Docket No. CE05121030, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:5A-16 and 17, the Board issued a Renewal Certificate of Approval to Comcast (the "2005 Renewal Certificate of Approval") for the continued construction, operation and maintenance of the System in and for the Borough. A copy of said 2005 Renewal Certificate of Approval is on file at the OCTV&T.
- 7. The 2005 Renewal Certificate of Approval, in accordance with its underlying municipal consent ordinance, reflected and included an automatic renewal provision, pursuant to

4831-9163-6400, v. 1 Page 2 of 7

which the Paulsboro franchise would be subject to automatic renewal for a period of ten (10) years following its scheduled expiration date of January 17, 2020.

- 8. As set forth under N.J.A.C. 14:18-13.6, applicable to ordinances which provide for automatic renewal, in the absence of notice at least 60 days prior to expiration of the initial term of a franchise from either the cable television company or the municipality of its intention to not renew, a franchise will be deemed to automatically renew.
- 9. Neither the Borough nor Comcast provided notice of its intention to not renew the Paulsboro franchise pursuant to N.J.A.C. 14:18-13.6 prior to the deadline set forth therein for such action, as confirmed in Comcast's letter to the Borough dated December 17, 2019, a copy of which is annexed hereto as Exhibit A. As set forth therein, Comcast further confirmed its intention to exercise its rights under the automatic renewal provision of the 2005 Renewal Certificate of Approval.
- 10. As a result of the foregoing, Comcast's franchise in Paulsboro shall be deemed to automatically renew.
- 11. Accordingly, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 14:18-13.6, Comcast hereby requests approval and implementation of the automatic renewal provision of the 2005 Renewal Certificate of Approval granted in Docket No. CE05121030, to continue to construct, operate and maintain the System in the Borough.
- 12. The information pertaining to Comcast on file with the OCTV&T, together with the information contained in its Application for Renewal of a Certificate of Approval ("COA Application") pertaining to the Borough, simultaneously filed herewith, all of which is adopted by reference thereto, establishes the requisite criteria for the continued construction, operation and maintenance of the System in the Borough by Comcast.

4831-9163-6400, v. 1 Page **3** of **7**

- operation of the System. Further, as indicated in the COA Application and other information on file with the OCTV&T, Comcast possesses the necessary financial responsibility and the ability to perform efficiently the proposed services and those services that may be required by the public convenience and necessity during the renewal period. The public convenience and necessity generally support the appropriateness of the issuance of a Renewal Certificate of Approval for the Borough to Comcast.
- 14. Comcast has complied, and will continue to comply, with all rules, regulations and laws applicable to the construction, operation and maintenance of the System and will continue to provide safe, adequate and proper cable television service in Paulsboro and the other municipalities in which it serves.

COUNT TWO

- 15. Comcast repeats paragraphs 1 through 14 of COUNT ONE as if set forth fully hereinafter.
- 16. As set forth in the COA Application and other information on file at the OCTV&T, the System operated by Comcast in the Borough is part of larger regional cable television systems serving numerous other municipalities contiguous to and surrounding the Borough.
- 17. As also set forth in the COA Application and other information on file at the OCTV&T, the Borough represents an integral part of the Comcast and Comcast-affiliated regional cable television systems serving the counties of Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem. In addition, the demographics of the Borough, as well

4831-9163-6400, v. 1 Page 4 of 7

as its location and other factors, mandate that cable television service be provided by Comcast as part of Comcast's and its affiliates' regional systems.

- 18. The Borough portion of Comcast's and its affiliates' Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem County regional cable systems is necessary for the continued provision of safe, adequate and economical cable television service to the citizens and residents of the Borough and the larger cable television systems generally. Further, continuation of Comcast's operating authority in the Borough will avoid an unreasonable duplication of services that would otherwise be detrimental to the development of adequate cable television service.
- 19. Comcast is entitled to a renewal of its Certificate of Approval for the Borough, pursuant to the provisions of Section 17(b) of the New Jersey Cable Television Act, N.J.S.A. 48:5A-1 et seq.
- 20. Comcast believes that a Renewal Certificate of Approval for the Borough of Paulsboro is necessary and proper for the public convenience and will serve the public interest for reasons which include, *inter alia*, the following:
- (a) The grant of an Automatic Renewal Certificate of Approval to Comcast will ensure the continued provision of cable television service to the residents of the Borough;
- (b) The services provided by Comcast in its COA Application are of great benefit to the citizens and residents of the Borough;
- (c) The financial strength and technical expertise of Comcast are more than adequate to continue to construct, operate and maintain its cable television system in the Borough; and
- (d) Comcast, its officers and directors, have vast experience in all aspects of cable television. In particular, they possess and represent the highest degree of technical and

4831-9163-6400, v. 1 Page 5 of 7

engineering competence, significant administrative experience and a demonstrated responsiveness to community needs. In addition to the Borough, Comcast and other Comcast affiliates hold Certificates of Approval or other authorization to construct, operate and maintain cable television systems in more than 340 municipalities in New Jersey, as well as additional communities in 38 other states and the District of Columbia.

WHEREFORE, Comcast hereby requests that the Honorable Board of Public Utilities issue to Comcast of Gloucester County, LLC, an Automatic Renewal Certificate of Approval to continue to construct, operate and maintain a cable television system in and for the Borough of Paulsboro.

Respectfully submitted,

SCARINCI & HOLLENBECK, LLC Attorneys for Petitioner

Comcast of Gloucester County, LLC

By: Laura M-Melles

Dated: February 2020, 2020

4831-9163-6400, v. 1 Page **6** of **7**