

From: [Christopher Zwarych](#)
To: [Secretary, Board](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Docket No. CM20030211
Date: Monday, June 29, 2020 7:36:56 PM

To whom it may concern:

I am writing in reference to the above referenced Docket regarding the acquisition of Service Electric Cable TV by Altice USA. I urge you to not approve this transaction unless Altice agrees to expand its service in our municipality of Blairstown and the surrounding communities. This corner of New Jersey has long been underserved when it comes to high-speed internet. Our communities have been fighting for many years to have SECTV listen to our pleas to expand service, only for our words to fall upon deaf ears. Now is the time for the BPU to take action to end our disparity, provide greater equality and to help our rural communities have access to the same level of service as our suburban and urban counterparts.

The fight to obtain high-speed internet at my residence is one that I have already had experience with. I personally have had communication earlier this year with both SECTV and the BPU regarding attempts to obtain service at my home address, located at 70 Dry Road, Blairstown, NJ. SECTV willingly presented false information to me in an inquiry of July 2019. At that time, I asked if their service was available at my residence and I was told yes. A month later, when calling to setup service I was informed it was not available. Additionally, after many failed attempts to get a quote for service at my home address, SECTV quoted me a price above \$30,000 to run cable to my house from it's location shortly down my street. This is an absolutely ridiculous amount to ask for what is basically a modern utility at this time in 2020.

As an educator, it is absolutely vital that I have a quality high-speed internet connection at my home residence. In light of the recent world events of COVID and three months of distance learning, it was very challenging for me to maintain my work responsibilities with my current connection. Additionally, my wife is also an educator and my son is a student and both had her own responsibilities as well. It was incredibly challenging for all of us to complete our requirements with our current service. How can I accomplish my job responsibilities without a quality internet product?

If Altice would like to acquire the service customers in our area, then they should also be obligated to expand their service to the underserved roads and sections of our towns. There is no reason that any resident of New Jersey should be without access to high-speed internet in the year 2020. In fact, according to a New Jersey Herald article published on February 14, 2020, Altice USA CEO Dexter Goei, reportedly said that SECTV and our area is "an underdeveloped broadband network." In my opinion, the fact that the CEO of Altice USA stated that our area is an "underdeveloped network" is enough in my mind to say that Altice should be required to expand service in order to have the acquisition of SECTV approved.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you need additional information or should require further discussion on this matter. I may be reached at this email - czpercussion@gmail.com - or via phone at 908-399-7291.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter,

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