

June 30, 2020

Ms. Lawanda Gilbert
Director, Office of Cable Television and Telecommunications
Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Avenue, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor, P.O. Box 350
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350

VIA EMAIL &. ELECTRONIC FILING

Re: In the Matter of the Joint Petition of CSC TKR, LLC and Service Electric Cable T.V. of New Jersey, Inc. for the Approval of the Transfer of Certificates of Approval of Service Electric Cable T.V. of New Jersey, Inc. BPU Docket No. CM20030211

Dear Director Gilbert:

Altice USA, Inc. ("Altice" or the "Company") appreciates the productive engagement with the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities staff and relevant parties in reviewing Altice's proposed acquisition of Service Electric Cable T.V. of New Jersey, Inc. ("Service Electric"). In the Joint Petition and responses to discovery, the Company has demonstrated its legal, financial and technical qualifications to operate the Service Electric system and articulated the many public interest benefits of the Transaction. Per this letter, Altice proposes the following voluntary commitments<sup>1</sup> that will benefit the communities served by Service Electric.

## 1. Broadband

**a.** <u>Availability of 1 Gig Internet</u>. Within twenty-four (24) months of the Closing of the Transaction (the "Closing"), Altice will make the necessary investments to offer its *Altice 1 Gig Internet* (or comparable product)<sup>2</sup> to all residential households and small businesses passed by the Service Electric system.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Altice incorporates by reference its prior reservation of rights with regard to non-jurisdictional matters. *See, e.g.,* Amended Petition at n1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Specific terms and conditions for the broadband products described herein shall be set forth in the applicable Altice terms of service.

- **b.** <u>Low-Income Broadband</u>. By January 1, 2021, Altice will make available *Altice Advantage Internet* or its equivalent to new customers<sup>3</sup> in the Service Electric service territory that meet either of the following eligibility criteria: (1) households with children that have a student eligible for the National School Lunch Program; or (2) persons age 65 and older who are eligible for benefits under the Supplemental Security Income program from the federal government. No credit check shall be required to enroll. Any current or former Service Electric customers in arrears will not be eligible until those debts have been cleared. The low-income broadband product described herein shall be available through December 31, 2023.
- 2. Network Expansion. Altice agrees to extend its network to requesting residential households or small businesses within Service Electric's franchised areas with a density of at least 25 homes per mile (as measured from the applicable franchise's Primary Service Area), with no customer contribution toward the cost of construction in the public right of way and as otherwise consistent with the Office's standard Line Extension Policy set forth in each municipal consent.<sup>4</sup> This is a commitment intended to expand the availability of services to more households and businesses that were previously unserved.
- 3. Franchise and Other Community Engagement. Altice is committed to developing strong and positive relationships with the communities in the Service Electric service area. With a department dedicated to government and community services, Altice will have more resources to support building those relationships. As part of this effort, we are committed to engaging with the municipalities to ensure that franchise agreements are renewed in a timely way, including those agreements which are currently expired. With regard to existing franchises, and subject to the network expansion commitment in Section 2, above, Altice hereby affirms its commitment to comply with the obligations contained in franchises applicable to the Service Electric communities, subject to applicable law.

We look forward to Board approval of the Transaction, so that Altice can begin bringing the benefits to the Service Electric communities. Please let either Marilyn Davis or me know if you need any additional information.

Very Truly Yours,

<u>/s/ Paul Jamieson</u> Vice President, Government Affairs & Policy

cc (via-email):

Service List in Docket No. CM20030211 Marilyn Davis, Senior Director, Government Affairs, Altice USA Robert Williams, Esq., General Counsel, Service Electric

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Customers who have subscribed to any broadband service offered by Altice or Service Electric within the prior sixty (60) days of applying for *Altice Advantage Internet* (or its equivalent) shall not be eligible.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Altice agrees that to the extent existing Service Electric municipal consents contain line extension density standards higher than the 25 HHs/mile, Altice will read the commitment set forth in Section 2 of this letter as superseding such terms.