JOSEPH L. FIORDALISO PRESIDENT

MARY-ANNA HOLDEN COMMISSIONER

DIANNE SOLOMON COMMISSIONER

ROBERT GORDON COMMISSIONER

DR. ZENON CHRISTODOULOU COMMISSIONER



State of New Jersey

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

44 SOUTH CLINTON AVENUE, 1ST FLOOR
POST OFFICE BOX 350
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625-0350

WWW.NJ.GOV/BPU

March 7, 2023

LAWANDA R. GILBERT DIRECTOR

OFFICE OF CABLE TELEVISION & TELECOMMUNICATIONS TEL: (609) 341-9186 FAX: (609) 777-3325

Stan Barrett, Esq. Scarinci Hollenbeck, LLC One River Centre 331 Newman Springs Road Building 3, Suite #310 Red Bank, NJ, 07701-5692

Re: In the Matter of the Petition of Comcast of New Jersey, LLC, for a Certificate of Approval to Continue to Construct, Operate and Maintain a Cable Television System in and for the Township of Barnegat, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey - Docket No. CE22060390

Dear Mr. Barrett:

The Office of Cable Television and Telecommunications ("OCTV&T") is in receipt of the above captioned Petition for Automatic Renewal Certificate of Approval ("COA") and attached application for the Township of Barnegat ("Township"). The following is a request for additional information the OCTV&T would like the company to furnish prior to the completion of our review:

1. Section IV. System Design Subsection 3: This section of the application requires, in part, the company to provide information as to the number, cable channel designation, type of access channels and their manner of operation and channel sharing. Staff notes that the section indicates that there is a dedicated government access channel on Channel 26. Section 11 of the current COA issued by the Board of Public Utilities ("BPU") in Docket No. CE10020157 states, "The Petitioner shall continue to provide a system-wide public access channel, a system-wide governmental access channel and two system-wide educational access channels, one of which is currently run by Ocean County Community College." However, this section of the application does not indicate anything about the system-wide public access channel, system-wide governmental access channel, or the two system-wide educational access channels. Please submit a revised application page that provides the information requested, which is applicable to the municipality.

Additionally, section 12 of the current COA states, "Within twelve months of the date of issuance of this Certificate, the Petitioner shall provide one governmental access channel and one educational access channel for use by the Township. Upon completion, the Petitioner shall submit proof to the Office of Cable Television of satisfaction of this provision." Please provide the proof that this provision was satisfied. Please also include this information for the section when you provide the revised application page.

2. <u>Section IV. System Design Subsection 4:</u> This section of the application requires the company to list the type of channels, proposed inception, and cable channel designation that has been agreed upon between the municipality and company. Staff notes that this section of the application does not provide any specific information regarding the above referenced access channels. Please revise the application page appropriately to include the information for the access channels.

- 3. <u>Section IV. System Design Subsection 5:</u> This section requires in part, the company to provide information in narrative form, regarding production equipment and facilities to be made available by the applicant for the use of others in the community. Staff notes that the application question *Note* has been changed for this section. The application can be found on the BPU Website. Please revise the application page appropriately.
- 4. <u>Section IV. System Design Subsection 6:</u> This section requires each applicant to describe in narrative form, any other services available to subscribers. Staff notes that the application question *Note* has been changed for this section. The application can be found on the BPU Website. Please revise the application page appropriately.
- 5. Section VI. System Plant Subsection 4: This section of the application requires a Map of the entire Municipality be attached as an appendix. In this case, we did receive a map with the confidential application, which contains parts that are not legible. Staff notes that we need a current map that includes a Map Legend, Municipality Borders, all streets which are to receive services under the designated Primary Service Area, phases of construction, and all streets which will be served under a "Line Extension Policy" ("LEP").

Please submit a map for the entire municipality that is legible and meets all of the following criteria;

- 1. Map Legend including company, system name, municipality name, and county
- 2. Municipal Borders
- 3. All of the streets should be labeled and note which are to receive service as the Primary Service Area and the Area Designated for LEP
- 4. Phases of construction
- 5. Aerial and underground
- 6. <u>Section VIII. System Channel Allocation:</u> This section requires information for all signals carried. Staff notes that the whole section has been removed from the application. The application can be found on the BPU Website. Please revise the application page appropriately to include the information that was removed along with the response for the section.
- 7. <u>Section IX. Line Extension Policy:</u> The current COA and application state that a Line Extension Policy ("LEP") is applicable. However, no LEP was attached to the application as an Appendix. The current COA contains the OCTV&T's LEP, which will be used in the Township and is attached.
 - Staff also notes that part of the application question has been removed or changed. The application can be found on the BPU Website. Please revise the application page appropriately.
- 8. XII. Financial Terms and Conditions: This section requires in part the company to, "submit current financial statements as to present status of cable operator together with current financial statements of parent, subsidiary companies and/or other financial interests, if applicable. Provide audited financial or an explanation of why they are unavailable." The section states in part, "Unaudited financial statements for Comcast of Central New Jersey, LLC. for the year ending December 31, 2021 were filed with the OCTV&T on or about March 31, 2022." Staff notes that the wrong system is indicated in the response to this section. Please revise the application page to state that unaudited financial statements for Comcast of New Jersey, LLC were filed with the OCTV&T for the above year.
- 9. <u>Section XIII. Bonding and Insurance, Subsection 2</u>: This section requires the amount of performance bond the company will have as of the franchise date. The section states in part, "Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:5A-28. Comcast Cablevision of Central New Jersey, LLC maintains and will continue to maintain a

Page | 3

performance bond..." Staff notes that the system name is indicated incorrectly in the response to this section. Please revise the application page to state that Comcast of New Jersey, LLC will continue to maintain a performance bond.

10. XVI. Verification: This section of the application requires Robert Clifton, the Sr. Director of Government and Regulatory Affairs for Comcast of New Jersey, LLC to verify that he is authorized on the part of the applicant to file with the Township the application and appendices attached thereto. However, no signature from Robert Clifton was provided for this section. Please provide a revised application page which includes Robert Clifton's signature on it.

Additionally, please note that on or around April 27, 2021 the Company erroneously filed a municipal application, which the parties did not utilize. Please confirm whether the application was withdrawn, since the Company issued notice to the Township on December 27, 2021, exercising its rights under the automatic renewal provision of the current COA. Please respond to this correspondence by March 22, 2023. If you should have any questions, please contact me at (609) 341-9170 or email nancy.wolf@bpu.nj.gov.

Sincerely.

Nancy J. Wolf

Administrative Analyst 4

NJW/sk

Enclosure

c: Donna M. Manno, Municipal Clerk (w/ encl.)
Martin Lisella, Township Administrator (w/ encl.)
Christopher J. Dasti, Township Attorney (w/ encl.)
Robert Clifton, Sr. Director of Govt. & Reg Affairs, Comcast (w/ encl.)
Dennis C. Linken, Esq. Scarinci Hollenbeck, LLC (w/ encl.)
Stephanie Katz, OCTV&T

Wor