

## **VIA FACSIMILE**

April 22, 2015

The Honorable Eric H. Holder, Jr. Attorney General of the United States U.S. Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington DC 20530-0001

Dear Mr. Attorney General:

On behalf of the 1.3 million hard-working men and women of the United Food and Commercial Workers International Union (UFCW), I am writing to express our strong opposition to the proposed \$45 billion merger between Comcast and Time Warner Cable.

A Comcast-Time Warner merger will inevitably lead to higher costs, fewer choices and poorer Internet service for our members and millions of hardworking families all across this country. At a time when so many of our members and everyday Americans are facing higher utility costs, the last thing they need is a merger that will lead to even higher cable bills.

Aside from increasing cable bills, we are also deeply concerned about the impact this merger would have on access.

High-speed Internet is a vital utility in every household in the country. Every family in the country with school-age children is doing their best to give their kids access to high-speed Internet for schoolwork and research. Job seekers need access to the web to submit applications and focus on career development. Retirees on fixed incomes need access to the Internet to help them stay healthy and connected to their families and their health care providers.

Today, and in the years ahead, affordable Internet access is absolutely vital to providing opportunities for members' families, and to ensure this nation's economy grows fairly and equitably.

No one should doubt the negative consequences this merger could have on the working and middle class. For instance, according to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), nearly 80 percent of housing units currently have access to two Internet service providers.

If the Comcast and Time Warner Cable merger is allowed to go through, around 30 million Americans would be stuck with this new megacompany, with no other options for real high-speed Internet - that is the definition of a monopoly.

Make no mistake: hard-working men and women deserve a better future—one with high quality, reliable Internet service at a reasonable price.

For the sake of every hard-working American, we strongly urge the Department of Justice to protect healthy competition and real choices in the broadband marketplace.

Without question, stopping the merger between Comcast and Time Warner is in our nation's best interest.

Sincerely,

International President