

Agenda Date: 12/17/25

Agenda Item: IIIB

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Board of Public Utilities 44 South Clinton Avenue, 1st Floor Post Office Box 350 Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350

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OFFICE OF CABLE TELEVISION AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF COMCAST)	RENEWAL CERTIFICATE OF
OF MONMOUTH COUNTY, LLC FOR A RENEWAL)	APPROVAL
CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL TO CONTINUE TO)	
CONSTRUCT, OPERATE, AND MAINTAIN A CABLE)	
TELEVISION SYSTEM IN AND FOR THE)	
BOROUGH OF OCEANPORT, COUNTY OF)	
MONMOUTH, STATE OF NEW JERSEY)	DOCKET NO. CE24050316

Parties of Record:

Stan Barrett, Esq., Brach Eichler LLC, on behalf of Comcast of Monmouth County, LLC **Stephanie Kramer, Clerk**, Borough of Oceanport, New Jersey

BY THE BOARD:

On April 18, 1974, the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities ("Board") granted Futurevision Cable Enterprises, Inc. ("Futurevision") a Certificate of Approval ("Certificate"), in Docket No. 735C-5011, for the construction, operation and maintenance of a cable television system in the Borough of Oceanport ("Borough"). On July 23, 1981, the Board granted Futurevision a Renewal Certificate of Approval ("Renewal Certificate") in Docket No. 803C-6666. Through a series of transfers with required Board approvals, Storer Cable Communications of Monmouth County, Inc. ("Storer") became a holder of the Certificate. On September 23, 1993, the Board issued a Renewal Certificate to Storer in Docket No. CE91061128. Through a series of subsequent transfers, with the required Board approvals, the holder of the Certificate was Comcast Cablevision of Monmouth County, Inc. ("Comcast"). On June 20, 1996, the Board granted Comcast a Renewal Certificate in Docket No. CE96040346. Based on a name change, the current holder of the Certificate is Comcast of Monmouth County, LLC ("Petitioner"). On November 7, 2008, the Board issued a Renewal Certificate to the Petitioner for the Borough, in Docket No. CE08010006. Although, by its terms, the Petitioner's above referenced Certificate expired on July 23, 2021, the Petitioner is authorized to continue to provide cable television service to the Borough pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:5A-25, pending disposition of proceedings regarding the renewal of its Certificate.

The Petitioner filed an application for the renewal of its municipal consent with the Borough on October 23, 2020, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:5A-23 and N.J.A.C. 14:18-13.1 to 9. On March 21, 2024, the Borough, after public hearing, adopted an ordinance granting renewal municipal

consent to the Petitioner ("Ordinance"). The Petitioner formally accepted the terms and conditions of the Ordinance on April 10, 2024. On May 10, 2024, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:5A-16, the Petitioner filed with the Board for a renewal of its Certificate for the Borough.¹

DISCUSSION AND FINDINGS

The Board has reviewed the application for municipal consent, the Ordinance and the petition for a Renewal Certificate. Based upon this review and the recommendation of the Office of Cable Television and Telecommunications, the Board **HEREBY FINDS** the following:

- 1. The Petitioner possesses the requisite legal, character, financial, and technical qualifications for the awarding of a Certificate. Further, these qualifications were reviewed by the Borough in conjunction with the municipal consent process.
- 2. The design and technical specifications of the system shall ensure that the Petitioner provides safe, adequate, and proper service.
- 3. The Petitioner has represented that all previously required construction within the franchise territory is complete.
- 4. The franchise period as stated in the Ordinance is ten (10) years, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:5A-19 and 25. The Board finds this franchise period reasonable.
- 5. The Borough has reserved the right to review the Petitioner's performance with regard to the Ordinance. In the event that the Borough shall find that the Petitioner has not substantially complied with the material terms and conditions of the Ordinance, the Borough shall have the right to petition the Board for appropriate administrative action, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:5A-47, provided, however, that the Borough shall first have given the Petitioner written notice of all alleged instances of non-compliance and an opportunity to cure the same within ninety (90) days of that notification. If, after such reasonable notice and opportunity to cure, the Petitioner has not cured any such findings of non-compliance, the Borough may petition the Board for appropriate administrative action, including modification and/or termination of the Certificate.
- 6. The Petitioner shall offer service to any present or future dwelling unit as described in the Ordinance, school, institution, and business located and to be located along any public rights-of-way in the Primary Service Area, at no cost beyond standard and nonstandard installation charges as set forth in the Petitioner's application. For any extension outside the Primary Service Area, the Petitioner shall utilize the line extension policy attached to the Certificate (Appendix "I") with a homes per mile ("HPM") figure of thirty-five (35).
- 7. The Petitioner shall maintain an informational schedule of prices, terms and conditions for unregulated service, and promptly file any revisions thereto.

¹ On June 23, 2025, the Petitioner filed amendments to the Petition that corrected the following errors: a misstatement of two (2) Docket Numbers 735C-5011 and 803C-6666; the prior Company name which was Comcast Cablevision of Monmouth County, Inc.: and corrected an omission that provided the information for the order issued in Docket No. CE91061128.

8. Pursuant to statutory requirements, the Ordinance specifies a complaint officer to receive and act upon complaints filed by subscribers in the Borough. In this case, it is the Office of Cable Television and Telecommunications. All complaints shall be received and processed in accordance with any applicable rules.

- 9. During the term of this franchise, and any renewal thereof, the Petitioner shall maintain a local business office or agent for the purpose of receiving, investigating and resolving complaints regarding the quality of service, equipment malfunctions, and similar matters. The Petitioner currently maintains a local office located at 310 Route 36, West Long Branch, New Jersey.
- 10. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:5A-30, the franchise fee to be paid to the Borough is specified to be three-and-one-half percent (3.5%) of the Petitioner's gross revenues, as defined in N.J.S.A. 48:5A-3(x), derived from cable television charges or fees paid by subscribers for its cable television service in the Borough. Additional regulatory fees shall be paid to the State in an amount not to exceed two percent (2%) of Petitioner's gross operating revenues derived from intrastate operations. The Board finds these fees to be reasonable.
- 11. The Petitioner shall provide public, educational, and governmental access channels and facilities in accordance with its renewal application and the Ordinance. Specifically, the Petitioner shall provide one (1) system-wide public access channel, and one (1) educational access channel aired from Brookdale Community College. The Petitioner will maintain the cable, modulators, and any equipment necessary for the Borough or its designee to send a signal to the Petitioner, and to receive the return feed of the signal.
- 12. Within eighteen (18) months after the effective date of this Certificate, and upon written request from the Borough, the Petitioner shall provide one (1) governmental HD access channel to the Borough. The Petitioner also provides a system-wide municipal access channel that is available to the Borough, and will become the above dedicated channel upon this request.
- 13. Within six (6) months of the effective date of this Certificate, the Petitioner shall provide to the Borough a one (1) time educational and governmental ("E/G") Access Capital Grant of \$15,000 to meet the E/G Access capital needs of the community. Upon completion, the Petitioner shall submit proof to the Office of Cable Television and Telecommunications indicating its compliance with this provision.
- 14. The Petitioner shall continue to provide Basic cable television service, at no charge, to one (1) outlet to each qualified existing school and library in the Borough, public and private, elementary, intermediate and secondary, provided the school building is within 200 feet of active cable distribution plant or through customer owned conduit. Each additional outlet installed, if any, shall be paid for on a materials plus labor basis by the school or library requesting service.
- 15. The Petitioner shall provide Basic cable television service, at no charge, to one (1) outlet to each police, fire, emergency management and public library, provided any such building is within 200 feet of active cable distribution plant or through customer owned conduit. Each additional outlet installed, if any, shall be paid for on a material plus labor basis by the Borough.

16. The Petitioner shall provide access for internet service to the Borough's electronic billboard (site to be determined), at no cost to the Borough, provided the billboard is located within 200 feet of active cable distribution plant or through customer owned conduit. The cost of monthly internet service for the electronic billboard will be borne by the Borough.

Based upon these findings, the Board <u>HEREBY CONCLUDES</u>, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:5A-17(a) and 28(c), that the Petitioner has the municipal consent necessary to support the petition; that such consent and issuance thereof are in conformity with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 48:5A-1 to 64; that the Petitioner has complied or is ready, willing, and able to comply with all applicable rules and regulations imposed by or pursuant to State and federal law as preconditions for engaging in the proposed cable television operations; that the Petitioner has sufficient financial and technical capacity, and meets the legal, character and other qualifications necessary to construct, maintain, and operate the necessary installations, lines, and equipment; and that the Petitioner is capable of providing the proposed service in a safe, adequate and proper manner.

Therefore, the Petitioner is <u>HEREBY ISSUED</u> this Renewal Certificate as evidence of Petitioner's authority to construct and operate a cable television system within the entirety of the Borough.

This Renewal Certificate is subject to all applicable State and federal laws, the rules and regulations of the Office of Cable Television and Telecommunications, and any such lawful terms, conditions, and limitations as currently exist or may hereafter be attached to the exercise of the privileges granted herein. The Petitioner shall adhere to the operating standards set forth by the Federal Communications Commission's rules and regulations, 47 C.F.R. § 76.1 et seq., including, but not limited to the technical standards 47 C.F.R. § 76.601 through § 76.630. Any modifications to the provisions thereof shall be incorporated into this Certificate.

Failure to comply with all applicable laws, rules, regulations, and orders of the Board or the Office of Cable Television and Telecommunications and/or the terms, conditions, and limitations set forth herein may constitute sufficient grounds for the suspension or revocation of this Certificate.

This Renewal Certificate is issued on the representation that the statements contained in the Petitioner's applications are true, and the undertakings therein contained shall be adhered to and be enforceable unless specific waiver is granted by the Office of Cable Television and Telecommunications pursuant to the authority contained in N.J.S.A. 48:5A-1 to 64.

This Certificate shall expire on July 23, 2031.

This Order shall be effective on December 24, 2025.

DATED: December 17, 2025

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

BY:

CHRISTINE GUHL-SADOVY

PRESIDENT

OR. ZENON CHRISTODOULOU

COMMISSIONER

MICHAEL BANGE

COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

BOARD SECRETARY

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the within document is a true copy of the original in the files of the Board of Public Utilities.

APPENDIX "I" Office of Cable Television and Telecommunications Line Extension Policy

Company: Comcast of Monmouth County, LLC

Municipality: Borough of Oceanport, County of Monmouth

A cable operator is required to absorb the cost of extensions to the system in the same proportion that the extension is to the remainder of the system.

Actual subscribers served by the extension are required to absorb the remainder of the cost.

If new subscribers are added to the extension, the cost is adjusted and those who previously paid receive an appropriate rebate.

1.	# of homes in extension mileage of extension	=	homes per mile ("HPM") of extension
2.	HPM of extension Minimum HPM that company actually constructs in the system*	=	ratio of the density of the extension to the minimum density that the company constructs in the system ("A")
3.	Total cost of building the extension times "A"	=	company's share of extension cost
4.	Total cost of building extension less company's share of extension cost	=	total amount to be recovered from subscribers
5.	Total amount to be recovered from subs Total subscribers in extension	=	each subscriber's share

In any case, the company shall extend its plant along public rights of way to:

- 1. All residences and businesses within 150 aerial feet of the operator's existing plant at no cost beyond the normal installation rate.
- 2. All residences and businesses within 100 underground feet of the operator's plant at no cost beyond the normal installation rate.
- * The minimum HPM that the company actually constructs in the system or municipality is the minimum number of homes that the company has historically constructed at its own cost. This is a function of the operator's breakeven point and its rate of return. Unbuilt systems will use the primary service area rather than construction.

The operator's installation policies shall apply to construction beyond the public right of way.

Detailed accounting or financial information to support the minimum HPM shall be supplied to the Office for its approval in such form as required. The minimum HPM shall be updated as appropriate.

When a request for service is received, and unless good cause is shown, cable companies shall:

- 1. Provide a written estimate within thirty (30) days of such a request.
- 2. Begin construction within sixty (60) days of receipt of any deposit monies from potential subscribers.
- 3. Complete construction within six (6) months of receipt of any deposit monies from potential subscribers.
- 4. Inform each home passed along the extension of the potential costs for subscribers.

Subscribers who pay for an extension shall be entitled to rebates in the following manner:

- 1. If the company acquires new subscribers subsequent to the initial calculation of step 5 above, the formula will be adjusted and those who have previously paid for the extension will be entitled to an appropriate rebate. In no event shall the amount of the rebate exceed the subscriber's contribution.
- 2. The company shall keep accurate records of the cost of the extension, the amounts paid by subscribers, and any appropriate adjustments.
- 3. The company shall notify subscribers in the extension of their rights and responsibilities concerning the extension.
- 4. Once an individual dwelling has paid its share of the extension cost, future reconnections or installations shall be made at the company's standard rates.
- 5. After a period of five (5) years from the installation of the first dwelling unit in the extension, no further adjustments shall be made. Installations after five (5) years shall be at the company's standard rate.
- 6. Once a subscriber is installed, that person shall not normally be entitled to a refund of any monies paid for the installations, except in accordance with the rebate procedure outlined in this policy.

Definitions

Primary Service Area

The Primary Service Area ("PSA") can be an entire municipality, but in many instances the PSA is a limited area within a community outside of which a line extension policy may apply. The PSA is depicted by a franchise map and narrative, presented and recorded during the franchise proceedings. It normally remains a fixed geographic area throughout the life of the franchise.

Line Extension Survey

Potential subscribers residing outside the PSA who request service are entitled to an estimate of their share of the cost to secure service. When conducting a survey and estimating costs, a cable company should factor in all potential subscribers who could practicably be included in the extension and give consideration to apparent residential construction in areas contiguous to the proposed extension.

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF COMCAST OF MONMOUTH 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 OCEANPORT, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DOCKET NO. CE24050316

SERVICE LIST

Stan Barrett, Esq.
Brach Eichler LLC
101 Eisenhower Parkway
Roseland, NJ 07068
sbarrett@bracheichler.com

Dennis Linken, Esq. Brach Eichler LLC 101 Eisenhower Parkway Roseland, NJ 07068 dlinken@bracheichler.com

Stephanie Kramer
Acting Borough Clerk
Borough of Oeanport
910 Oceanport Way
PO Box 370
Oceanport, NJ 07757
skramer@oceanportboro.com

Robert Clifton Senior Director Govt. & Regulatory Affairs Comcast Cable 403 South Street Eatontown, New Jersey 07724 robert clifton@comcast.com Meliha Arnautovic, DAG
NJ Department of Law & Public Safety
Division of Law
Richard J. Hughes Justice Complex
Public Utilities Section
25 Market Street
Post Office Box 112
Trenton, NJ 08625
meliha.arnautovic@law.njoag.gov

Board of Public Utilities

44 South Clinton Avenue, 1st Floor Post Office Box 350 Trenton, NJ 08625-0350 www.nj.gov/bpu/

Sherri L. Lewis, Board Secretary board.secretary@bpu.nj.gov

Stacy Peterson, Deputy Executive Director stacy.peterson@bpu.nj.gov

Office of Cable Television and Telecommunications

Lawanda R. Gilbert, Esq., Director lawanda.gilbert@bpu.nj.gov

Nancy J. Wolf, Administrative Analyst 4 nancy.wolf@bpu.nj.gov

Stephanie Katz, Administrative Analyst 1 stephanie.katz@bpu.nj.gov

Counsel's Office

Ava-Marie Madeam, General Counsel avamarie.madeam@bpu.nj.gov

Elspeth Faiman Hans, Deputy General Counsel elspeth.hans@bpu.nj.gov

Kit Burnette, Associate Counsel kit.burnette@bpu.nj.gov