

February 28, 2012

Honorable Julius Genachowski

Federal Communications Commission

445 12th Street SW

Washington D.C. 20554

I submit this filing to the International Bureau's Satellite Division in support of Google Fiber. Given the current state of competition or lack thereof in the fixed broadband market compared to the amount of competition that continues to exist for dial-up Internet access due to M&A deals the FCC may have wrongly approved during the 8 year Bush Cheney Administration any new competition for consumers in broadband made possible without regulatory action breaking up monopoly companies or denying further M&A activity should be welcomed as long as its done in a way that is safe and reasonable.

I strongly believe the application of Google Fiber with the Commission should ultimately be approved with conditions if so needed but if no direct need exists it should be done unconditionally. I know their original application (File Number SES-AMD-20120203-00139) was partially dismissed and Google has since re-filed an amended version of its application (File Number SES-REG-20111216-01461) approval of which I strongly support. Unfortunately, the FCC in 2002 made the mistake of classifying broadband service over cable modem as a Title I information service under the Telecommunications Act and later reclassified broadband thru phone company DSL in 2005 also as a Title I information service. In the process the FCC denied itself statutory authority over broadband providers to enforce competition mandates and when it tried to use Title I ancillary authority for Network Neutrality on the telecommunications and cable companies that grew into monopolies due to the lack of competition mandates to stop them from engaging in ISP discrimination the agency was shot down by the courts in Comcast v. FCC.

Unfortunately, the Chairman who reacted by rightly proposing a Third Way legal framework to restore oversight over broadband using Title II reclassification later backed down to the lobbyists. That being said while the FCC has failed to protect, promote and deliver competition it can enable some competition to develop by approving the application of Google Fiber. In every local market Google Fiber enters enormous pressure will be put on the telecom and cable cartels to discontinue their racketeering. Google Fiber will provide faster speeds for less than the existing providers and due to Google's vision of a more open web they will not be imposing the type of data caps that AT&T, Verizon, Time Warner Cable and other companies impose on users. These companies would be pressured to drop their usage based billing schemes which amount to Internet Overcharging scams. They will face real competition as Google provides more for less. This is something big cable and big telecom fear because they are forced to compete with other providers and to improve their own services to not lose customers. Unlike Light Squared whose satellite network would interfere with GPS Google Fiber would not have those type of problems nor be anti-competitive so I support its build-out.