

RENEWAL
CABLE TELEVISION FRANCHISE
FOR
THE TOWN OF WEARE,
NEW HAMPSHIRE

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION.....	1
ARTICLE 1	2
DEFINITIONS	2
SECTION 1.1 - DEFINITIONS.....	2
ARTICLE 2	6
GRANT OF RENEWAL FRANCHISE.....	6
SECTION 2.1 - GRANT OF RENEWAL FRANCHISE.....	6
SECTION 2.2 - TERM: NON-EXCLUSIVITY.....	6
SECTION 2.3 – RENEWAL OF FRANCHISE.....	7
SECTION 2.4 - NON-EXCLUSIVITY OF FRANCHISE [SEE RSA 53-C:3-B].....	7
SECTION 2.5 - RESERVATION OF AUTHORITY.....	8
SECTION 2.6 - POLE AND CONDUIT ATTACHMENT RIGHTS.....	8
ARTICLE 3	10
SYSTEM SPECIFICATIONS AND CONSTRUCTION	10
SECTION 3.1 - AREA TO BE SERVED	10
SECTION 3.2 - SUBSCRIBER NETWORK.....	12
SECTION 3.3 - PARENTAL CONTROL CAPABILITY.....	12
SECTION 3.4 - EMERGENCY OVERRIDE.....	12
SECTION 3.5 – DELIVERY OF SIGNALS	13
SECTION 3.6 - LEASED ACCESS CHANNELS.....	13
SECTION 3.7 - SUBSCRIBER NETWORK CABLE DROPS	13
ARTICLE 4	15
TECHNOLOGICAL AND SAFETY STANDARDS.....	15
SECTION 4.1 - SYSTEM MAINTENANCE.....	15
SECTION 4.2 - REPAIRS AND RESTORATION.....	17
SECTION 4.3 - CABLE LOCATION.....	18
SECTION 4.4 - TREE TRIMMING AND HISTORIC DISTRICT.....	18
SECTION 4.5 - STRAND MAPS	19
SECTION 4.6 - BUILDING MOVES	19
SECTION 4.7 - DIG SAFE.....	19
SECTION 4.8 - DISCONNECTION AND RELOCATION.....	20
SECTION 4.9 – PROHIBITION AGAINST RESELLING OF SERVICE.....	20
SECTION 4.10 - EMERGENCY POWER.....	20
ARTICLE 5	21
PROGRAMMING	21
SECTION 5.1 - BASIC CABLE SERVICE.....	21
SECTION 5.2 - PROGRAMMING.....	21
ARTICLE 6	22
PEG ACCESS CHANNEL(S) AND SUPPORT	22
SECTION 6.1 - PEG ACCESS CHANNEL(S).....	22
SECTION 6.2 - ACCESS CABLECASTING AND PICTURE QUALITY	25
SECTION 6.3 – PEG ACCESS CAPITAL SUPPORT	25
SECTION 6.4 - PROGRAMMING EXCLUSIVITY AND NON-COMPETITION.....	26

ARTICLE 7	27
CUSTOMER SERVICE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION	27
SECTION 7.1 - CUSTOMER SERVICE	27
SECTION 7.2 - SERVICE INTERRUPTIONS	27
SECTION 7.3 - PROTECTION OF SUBSCRIBER PRIVACY	27
SECTION 7.4 – PROPRIETARY INFORMATION.....	28
SECTION 7.5 - EMPLOYEE IDENTIFICATION CARDS	28
ARTICLE 8	29
PRICES AND CHARGES	29
SECTION 8.1 - PRICES AND CHARGES	29
ARTICLE 9	30
REGULATORY OVERSIGHT	30
SECTION 9.1-FRANCHISE FEE PAYMENTS	30
SECTION 9.2 - INDEMNIFICATION	31
SECTION 9.3 - INSURANCE.....	31
SECTION 9.4 - PERFORMANCE BOND.....	32
SECTION 9.5 - REPORTS.....	33
SECTION 9.6 - ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW	33
SECTION 9.7 - EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY	34
SECTION 9.8 - REVOCATION OF FRANCHISE	34
SECTION 9.9 - NOTICE AND OPPORTUNITY TO CURE.....	35
SECTION 9.10 - TRANSFER OR ASSIGNMENT	36
SECTION 9.11 - INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE	37
SECTION 9.12 - NO THIRD PARTY BENEFICIARIES	37
ARTICLE 10	38
MISCELLANEOUS	38
SECTION 10.1 - SEVERABILITY	38
SECTION 10.2 - FORCE MAJEURE	38
SECTION 10.3 - NOTICES	39
SECTION 10.4 - ENTIRE AGREEMENT	39
SECTION 10.5 - CAPTIONS	40
SECTION 10.6 - APPLICABILITY OF RENEWAL FRANCHISE.....	40
EXHIBIT A	42
EXHIBIT B	43
EXHIBIT C	44
EXHIBIT D	45
EXHIBIT E	47
EXHIBIT F	49
EXHIBIT G	51

WEARE, NH RENEWAL FRANCHISE

INTRODUCTION

WHEREAS, Comcast of Maine/New Hampshire, Inc., (hereinafter "Franchisee"), is the duly authorized holder of a renewal franchise to operate a cable television system in the Town of Weare, New Hampshire (hereinafter the "Town") pursuant to NH R.S.A. 53-C, as amended, said franchise having commenced on June 23, 2015;

WHEREAS, Franchisee filed a written request for a renewal of its franchise by letter dated June 19, 2019 in conformity with the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984 ("Cable Act") ;

WHEREAS, there has been an opportunity for public comment, as required by Section 626(h) of the Cable Act;

WHEREAS, the Franchising Authority has determined that the financial, legal, and technical ability of Franchisee is reasonably sufficient to provide services, facilities, and equipment necessary to meet the future cable-related needs of the community, and desires to enter into this Renewal Franchise with the Franchisee for the construction and continued operation of a cable system on the terms and conditions set forth herein;

WHEREAS, the Town's Board of Selectmen, as the Franchising Authority, finds that Franchisee has complied with the terms of its previous Franchise; and

WHEREAS, insofar as the State of New Hampshire has delegated to the Town the authority to grant a franchise for cable system operation within the town's territorial boundaries, the Town hereby exercises its authority to grant a non-exclusive Renewal Franchise permitting the operation of a cable communications system within the Town.

NOW THEREFORE, after due and full consideration, the Franchising Authority and Franchisee agree that this Renewal Franchise is issued upon the following terms and conditions:

ARTICLE 1

DEFINITIONS

SECTION 1.1 - DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this Renewal Franchise, capitalized terms, phrases, words, and abbreviations shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984, as amended from time to time, 47 U.S.C. §§521 et seq. (the “Cable Act”), and the Revised Statutes Annotated of New Hampshire, as amended from time to time, unless otherwise defined herein.

(a) Basic Cable Service – means the lowest tier of service which includes the retransmission of local television broadcast signals.

(b) Cable Act – means the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984, Public Law No. 98-549, 98 Stat. 2779 (1984), 47 U.S.C. 521 et. seq., amending the Communications Act of 1934, as further amended by the 1992 Cable Consumer Protection and Competition Act, Public Law No. 102-385 and the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Public Law No. 104-458, 110 Stat. 56 (1996) and as may be further amended.

(c) Cable Television System or Cable System – means the facility owned, constructed, installed, operated and maintained by Franchisee in the Town of Weare, consisting of a set of closed transmission paths and associated signal generation, reception, and control equipment that is designated to provide cable service which includes video programming and which is provided to multiple subscribers within a community, but such term does not include (a) a facility that serves only to retransmit the television signals of one or more television broadcast stations; (b) a facility that serves subscribers without using any public right-of-way; (c) a facility of a common carrier which is subject, in whole or in part, to the provisions of Title II of the Cable Act, except that such facility shall be considered a cable system (other than for purposes of section 621(c) of the Cable Act) to the extent such facility is used in the transmission of video programming directly to

subscribers unless the extent of such use is solely to provide interactive on-demand services; or (d) an open video system that complies with section 653 of this title, or (e) any facilities of any electric utility used solely for operating its electric utility systems.

(d) Cable Service – means the one-way transmission to subscribers of (i) video programming, or (ii) other programming service, and subscriber interaction, if any, which is required for the selection or use of such video programming or other programming service.

(e) Drop – means the coaxial cable that connects a home or building to the Subscriber Network.

(f) Effective Date – means July 17, 2023.

(g) FCC – means the Federal Communications Commission or any successor governmental entity.

(h) Franchising Authority – means the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Weare, New Hampshire, or the lawful designee thereof.

(i) Franchise Fee – means payment to be made by the Franchisee to the Franchising Authority, the Town of Weare and/or designee, which shall have the meaning set forth in Section 622(g) of the Cable Act, 47 U.S.C. Section 542(g)

(j) Franchisee – means Comcast of Maine/New Hampshire, Inc., or any successor or transferee in accordance with the terms and conditions in this Renewal Franchise.

(k) Gross Annual Revenues – means the monthly subscriber revenue received by the Franchisee from the operation of the Cable System in the Town of Weare to provide Cable Services, calculated in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, including but not limited to monthly Basic Cable Service, premium and pay-per-view fees, installation fees, and equipment rental fees. Gross Annual Revenue shall not include advertising or home shopping revenue, refundable deposits, bad debt, late fees, investment income, nor any taxes, fees or assessments imposed or assessed by any governmental authority and collected by the Franchisee on behalf of such entity.

(l) Multichannel Video Programming Distributor – means a person such as, but not limited to, a cable operator, a multichannel multipoint distribution service, a direct broadcast satellite service, or a television receive-only satellite program distributor, who makes available for purchase, by subscribers or customers, multiple channels of video programming.

(m) Outlet – means an interior receptacle that connects a television set to the Cable Television System.

(n) PEG Access Programming or Access Programming – means (i) "Educational": Non-commercial programming produced by the Town of Weare Public Schools, or other educational organizations as designated by the Franchising Authority, and other non-commercial educational programming offered by them which is not ordinarily offered by operators of cable systems; (ii) "Governmental": Non-commercial programming produced by Town of Weare departments or agencies and other non-commercial programming offered by them or a duly authorized designee which is not ordinarily offered by operators of cable systems; (iii) "Public": non-commercial programming produced by the residents of the Town of Weare, or produced by an access corporation or non-profit corporation operating within the Town of Weare, and other non-commercial programming not ordinarily offered by operators of cable systems.

(o) Person - means any natural person or any association, firm, partnership, joint venture, corporation, or other legally recognized entity, whether for-profit or not-for profit, but shall not mean the Franchising Authority.

(p) PEG Access Channel or Access Channel – means the use of one or more video channel(s) owned by the Franchisee and made available to the Town of Weare without charge, for the purpose of transmitting community public, governmental and educational Access Programming to Subscribers.

(q) Public Way – shall mean the surface of, and the space above and below, any public street, highway, freeway, bridge, land path, alley, court, boulevard, sidewalk, way, lane, public way, drive, circle or other public right-of-way, including, but not limited to, public utility

easements, dedicated utility strips, or rights-of-way dedicated for compatible uses and any temporary or permanent fixtures or improvements located thereon now or hereafter held by the Franchising Authority in the Town of Weare, which shall entitle the Franchisee to the use thereof for the purpose of installing, operating, repairing, and maintaining the Cable System. Public Way shall also mean any easement now or hereafter held by the Franchising Authority within the Town of Weare for the purpose of public travel, or for utility or public service use dedicated for compatible uses, and shall include other easements or rights-of-way as shall within their proper use and meaning entitle the Franchisee to the use thereof for the purposes of installing, operating, and maintaining the Franchisee's Cable System over poles, wires, cables, conductors, ducts, conduits, vaults, manholes, amplifiers, appliances, attachments, and other property as may be ordinarily necessary and pertinent to the Cable System.

(r) Public Buildings – means those buildings owned or leased by the Franchising Authority for government administrative purposes, and shall not include buildings owned by Franchising Authority but leased to third parties or buildings such as storage facilities at which government employees are not regularly stationed.

(s) Renewal Franchise - means this renewal franchise agreement and any amendments or modifications in accordance with the terms herein.

(t) Standard Installation – shall mean the standard one hundred fifty foot (150') Drop connection to the existing distribution system.

(u) Subscriber – means a Person or user of the Cable System who lawfully receives Cable Service with the Franchisee's express permission.

(v) Subscriber Network – shall mean the trunk and feeder signal distribution network over which video and audio signals are transmitted to Subscribers.

(w) Town – means the Town of Weare, New Hampshire.

(x) Video Programming or Programming – shall mean the Programming provided by, or generally considered comparable to programming provided by, a television broadcast station.

ARTICLE 2

GRANT OF RENEWAL FRANCHISE

SECTION 2.1 - GRANT OF RENEWAL FRANCHISE

(a) Pursuant to the authority of RSA 53-C and the Cable Act, the Franchising Authority hereby grants a non-exclusive Renewal Franchise to Comcast of Maine/New Hampshire, Inc., a New Hampshire Corporation, authorizing and permitting Franchisee to construct, operate and maintain a Cable Television System in the Public Way within the municipal limits of the Town of Weare. Nothing in this Renewal Franchise shall be construed to prohibit the Franchisee from offering any service over its Cable System that is not prohibited by federal or state law.

(b) This Renewal Franchise is granted under and in compliance with the Cable Act and RSA 53-C of the Laws of New Hampshire, and in compliance with all rules and regulations of the FCC and other applicable rules and regulations in force and effect during the period for which this Renewal Franchise is granted.

(c) Subject to the terms and conditions herein, the Franchising Authority hereby grants to the Franchisee the right to construct, upgrade, install, operate and maintain a Cable Television System within the Public Way.

SECTION 2.2 - TERM: NON-EXCLUSIVITY

The term of this non-exclusive Renewal Franchise shall be for a period of seven (7) years and shall commence on July 17, 2023, following the expiration of the current franchise, and shall terminate at midnight on July 16, 2030. The term of this Renewal Franchise is subject to all provisions of New Hampshire law and applicable federal law, as such laws may be from time to time amended.

SECTION 2.3 – RENEWAL OF FRANCHISE

The renewal of this Renewal Franchise shall be governed by applicable federal law and regulations promulgated thereunder and by applicable New Hampshire law.

SECTION 2.4 - NON-EXCLUSIVITY OF FRANCHISE [See RSA 53-C:3-b]

(a) The Franchisee acknowledges and agrees that the Franchising Authority reserves the right to grant one or more additional Franchises to other Cable Service providers within the Town for the right to use and occupy the Public Ways; provided, however, that in accordance with RSA Chapter 53-C and not inconsistent with federal law, the Franchising Authority shall not grant any additional Franchises for Cable Service within its jurisdiction on terms or conditions more favorable or less burdensome than those in any existing Franchise within the Town.

(b) In the event that the Franchisee believes that any additional Franchise has been granted on terms and conditions more favorable or less burdensome than those contained in this Renewal Franchise, the Franchisee may so notify the Franchising Authority in writing and may request that the Franchising Authority convene a hearing on such issue. Along with said written request, the Franchisee shall provide the Franchising Authority with written reasons for its belief. At said hearing, the Franchisee shall have an opportunity to demonstrate that any such additional Franchise is on terms more favorable or less burdensome than those contained in this Renewal Franchise. The Franchisee shall provide the Franchising Authority with such financial or other relevant information as is requested.

(c) Should the Franchisee demonstrate that any such additional Franchise has been granted on terms and conditions more favorable or less burdensome than those contained in this Renewal Franchise, the Franchising Authority shall consider and negotiate, in good faith, equitable amendments to this Renewal Franchise within reasonable time.

(d) The issuance of additional Franchise(s) shall be subject to all applicable federal and state laws, including RSA 53-C:3-b and applicable regulations promulgated thereunder.

(e) In the event that the Franchisee demonstrates that an existing or future Cable Service provider in the Town has been provided relief by the Franchising Authority from any obligation of its Franchise, then the Franchisee shall be awarded an equivalent amount of relief from obligations herein. Such relief shall be in writing and in the form of an amendment to this Franchise. The Franchising Authority shall convene a public hearing on the issue within sixty (60) days of Franchisee's notification to the Franchising Authority requiring such relief, unless otherwise mutually agreed to. Franchise shall provide reasons for its belief in the notification. At the public hearing, the Franchising Authority shall afford the Franchisee an opportunity to demonstrate that any existing or future service providers in the Town have been provided relief by the Franchising Authority from any obligation of its cable television Franchise. The Franchisee shall provide the Franchising Authority with such financial or other relevant information as is requested to justify its belief; provided, however, that the parties' counsels mutually and reasonably deem said information is non-proprietary.

SECTION 2.5 - RESERVATION OF AUTHORITY

Nothing in this Renewal Franchise shall (i) abrogate the right of the Franchising Authority to perform any public works or public improvements of any description, (ii) be construed as a waiver of any codes or bylaws/ordinances of general applicability and not specific to the Cable Television System, the Franchisee, or this Renewal Franchise, or (iii) be construed as a waiver or release of the rights of the Franchising Authority in and to the Public Ways. Any conflict between the terms of this Renewal Franchise and any present or future exercise of the municipality's police and regulatory powers shall be resolved by a court of appropriate jurisdiction.

SECTION 2.6 - POLE AND CONDUIT ATTACHMENT RIGHTS

Pursuant to RSA 231:161, permission is hereby granted to the Franchisee to attach or otherwise affix including, but not limited to cables, wire, or optical fibers comprising the Cable

Television System to the existing poles and conduits on and under public streets and ways, provided the Franchisee secures the permission and consent of the public utility companies to affix the cables and/or wires to their pole and conduit facilities. By virtue of this Renewal Franchise the Franchising Authority grants Franchisee equal standing with power and telephone utilities in the manner of placement of facilities on Public Ways, subject to the lawful exercise of the authority of the Town to approve the location of all installations in the Public Ways, and subject to the Town's lawful use of the Public Ways.

ARTICLE 3

SYSTEM SPECIFICATIONS AND CONSTRUCTION

SECTION 3.1 - AREA TO BE SERVED

(a) The Franchisee shall make Cable Service available to every residential dwelling unit within the Town where the minimum density is at least twenty-five (25) dwelling units per aerial mile and forty (40) dwelling units per underground mile, providing however, that such dwelling units are within one (1) mile of the existing Cable System and the Franchisee is able to obtain from property owners any necessary easements and/or permits in accordance with Cable Act. Subject to the density requirement, Franchisee shall offer Cable Service to all new homes or previously unserved homes located within three hundred feet (300') of the Franchisee's Distribution Cable. For non-Standard Installations the Franchisee shall offer said service within ninety (90) days of a Subscriber requesting such for aerial installations and one hundred eighty (180) days, weather permitting, of a Subscriber requesting such for underground installations. With respect to areas of the Town which are currently served by Franchisee from a contiguous cable television system or currently unserved but could be served by abutting town(s) served by Franchisee, Franchisee shall have the option to serve such areas from its cable television system in such abutting town.

(b) Installation costs shall conform with the Cable Act. Any dwelling unit within three hundred feet (300 ft.) aerial or three hundred feet (300 ft.) underground of the Distribution Cable shall be entitled to a Standard Installation rate, unless the sub-surface is a hard surface or requires boring through rock or a similar hard surface (i.e. concrete, asphalt, etc.). Installations of more than three hundred feet (300 ft.) or which involve a hard surface or which require boring shall be provided at a rate established by the Franchisee in accordance with applicable federal and state laws. For installations more than three hundred feet (300 ft.), not involving a hard surface, the first three hundred feet (300 ft.) shall be at the Standard Installation rate.

(c) Provided Franchisee has at least ninety (90) days' prior written notice concerning the opening of residential subdivision trenching, or of the installation of conduit for the location of utilities, it shall install its cable in such trenching or conduits or may seek permission to utilize alternative trenching or conduits within a comparable time frame. If a substantial quantity of cable is required for a large subdivision and said quantity is not in stock, the Franchisee shall be allowed additional time for said installation. The Franchising Authority, or its designee, shall exercise reasonable efforts to have the Planning Board and developers give timely written notice of trenching and underground construction to the Franchisee. Developer shall be responsible for the digging and back-filling of all trenches.

(d) If all of the transmission and distribution facilities of all of the respective public or municipal utilities, if any, in Town are underground, the Franchisee shall place its Cable Systems' transmission and distribution facilities underground; provided that (1) such underground locations are actually capable of accommodating the Franchisee's cable and other equipment without technical degradation of the Cable System's signal quality, and (2) the Franchisee is reimbursed for its costs associated with such underground placement if reimbursement is made to any of the other respective utility companies in Town. Such reimbursement shall be through payment from the Town. In any area of Town where the transmission or distribution facilities of the respective public or municipal utilities are both aerial and underground, the Franchisee shall have the discretion to construct, operate, and maintain all of its transmission and distribution facilities, or any part thereof, aurally or underground. Nothing in this Section shall be construed to require the Franchisee to construct, operate, or maintain underground any ground-mounted appurtenances such as customer taps, line extenders, system passive devices, amplifiers, power supplies, pedestals, or other related equipment.

SECTION 3.2 - SUBSCRIBER NETWORK

(a) The Franchisee shall maintain a Cable Television System, fully capable of carrying a minimum bandwidth of 750MHz.

(b) The Cable System shall be designed and constructed so that television station broadcast signals received by the Franchisee in stereo are transmitted in stereo to Subscribers. Consistent with 47 U.S.C. § 534 (b), Franchisee shall comply with all regulations concerning the transmission of advanced television signals.

(c) Notifications to Subscribers and the Franchising Authority regarding changes in rates, Programming services or channel positions shall be made in accordance with applicable FCC regulations, currently 47 C.F.R. part 76, at Sections 76.1602, 76.1603 and 76.1619, as they may be amended. These regulations are attached hereto and incorporated herein at **Exhibit F**.

(d) Franchisee shall also comply with the requirements of N.H. RSA 53-C:3-d, as it may be amended, regarding annual notices to Subscribers and the Franchising Authority.

SECTION 3.3 - PARENTAL CONTROL CAPABILITY

(a) Pursuant to federal law and upon request, and at no separate additional charge, the Franchisee shall provide Subscribers with the capability to control the reception of any channels on the Cable System.

(b) If the Subscriber chooses to use a converter to achieve the parental control capability, Franchisee may charge Subscriber for use of the converter.

SECTION 3.4 - EMERGENCY OVERRIDE

The Cable System shall comply with the FCC Emergency Alert System in accordance with the requirements of the FCC at 47 C.F.R., Part 11.

SECTION 3.5 – DELIVERY OF SIGNALS

The Franchisee will abide by the applicable provisions of the Consumer Electronics Equipment Compatibility provision of federal law (currently 47 U.S.C. §544a).

SECTION 3.6 - LEASED ACCESS CHANNELS

Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. §532, the Franchisee shall make available channel capacity for commercial use by persons unaffiliated with the Franchisee. Rates for use of commercial access channels shall be negotiated between the Franchisee and the commercial user in accordance with federal law.

SECTION 3.7 - SUBSCRIBER NETWORK CABLE DROPS

(a) The parties agree that Franchisee will provide basic cable service to the locations identified in **Exhibit A** and has the right in accordance with applicable law to deduct the value of those services from franchise fees. Franchisee will notify the Town if it intends to implement said offset and the value of those services at least sixty (60) days prior to doing so.

(b) Subject to Section 3.7 (a), Franchisee shall provide one (1) Drop, Outlet and Basic Cable Service at no charge to all new Public Buildings and other Town owned Public Buildings, along the Distribution Cable subject to the limitations set forth above. This obligation shall pertain to any new or relocated Public Buildings throughout the term of this Renewal Franchise, which shall be wired within six (6) months, weather permitting, of a written request delivered to Franchisee by the Franchising Authority. The Franchising Authority or its designee shall consult with a representative of the Franchisee to determine the appropriate location for each Outlet prior to requesting that the Franchisee install the free service.

(c) Nothing in this Section shall require the Franchisee to move existing Drops or Outlets, as listed in **Exhibit A**, or install an additional Drop or Outlet to any municipal or Town owned or leased Public Building which already has a free Drop or Outlet.

(d) It is understood that the Franchisee shall not be responsible for any internal wiring of such Public Buildings.

ARTICLE 4

TECHNOLOGICAL AND SAFETY STANDARDS

SECTION 4.1 - SYSTEM MAINTENANCE

(a) In installing, operating and maintaining equipment, cable and wires, the Franchisee shall avoid damage and injury to trees, structures and improvements in and along the routes authorized by the Franchising Authority, except as may be approved by the Franchising Authority if required for the proper installation, operation and maintenance of such equipment, cable and wires.

(b) The construction, maintenance and operation of the Cable Television System for which this Renewal Franchise is granted shall be done in conformance with all applicable laws, bylaws of general applicability, codes and regulations, including but not limited to OSHA, the National Electrical Safety Code, and the rules and regulations of the FCC as the same exist or as same may be hereafter changed or amended.

(c) Operating and maintenance personnel shall be trained in the use of all safety equipment and the safe operation of vehicles and equipment. The Franchisee shall install and maintain its equipment, cable and wires in such a manner as shall not interfere with any installations of the Town or any public utility serving the Town.

(d) All structures and all equipment, cable and wires in, over, under, and upon streets, sidewalks, alleys, and public rights of way of the Town, wherever situated or located shall at all times be kept and maintained in a safe and suitable condition and in good order and repair.

(e) The signal of any Broadcast station carried on the Cable Television System shall be carried without material degradation in quality at all subscribing locations within the limits imposed by the technical specifications of the Cable System and as set forth by the FCC. The Cable System shall be operated and maintained so as to comply with the technical standards set forth in the FCC's rules and regulations as they apply to cable television systems.

(f) The Town reserves the right to reasonably inspect all construction and installation work for compliance with applicable laws, codes, ordinances and regulations and with provisions of the Renewal Franchise. The Franchising Authority or its designee(s) shall have the right to inspect the plant or equipment of the Franchisee in the Town at reasonable times and under reasonable circumstances. The Franchisee shall fully cooperate in such inspections; provided, however, that such inspections are reasonable and do not interfere with the operation or the performance of the facilities of the Cable System, and that such inspections are conducted after reasonable notice to the Franchisee. The Franchisee shall be provided prior written notice of said inspections and shall be entitled to have a representative present during such inspections. All inspections shall be at the expense of the Town.

(g) All lines, cables and distribution structures and equipment, including poles and towers, erected by Franchisee within the Town shall be located so as not to obstruct or interfere with the proper use of the Public Ways, as defined herein, and not to interfere with the existing public utility installation. Franchisee shall have no vested right in a location except as granted herein by the Renewal Franchise, and such construction shall be removed by Franchisee at its own cost and expense whenever the same restricts or obstructs or interferes with the operation or location of said Public Ways, provided, however, that this standard shall apply to all Persons or entities owning lines, cables, and distribution structures, and equipment located in the Public Ways, and provided further that the Franchisee shall not be required to remove any such construction solely to accommodate needs of competing Cable Systems or other providers of Cable Services.

(h) Upon written notice from the Franchising Authority, the Franchisee shall remedy a general deficiency with respect to the technical standards described herein within sixty (60) days of receipt of notice and a safety deficiency within forty-eight (48) hours of receipt of notice and shall notify the Franchising Authority when the deficiency has been corrected. The Franchising

Authority may request in writing, and if so the Franchisee shall provide, progress reports at fourteen (14) day intervals on the status of repair efforts during the sixty (60) day period.

SECTION 4.2 - REPAIRS AND RESTORATION

(a) Franchisee shall adhere to the performance standard set by the FCC. Whenever it is necessary to interrupt service for the purpose of making repairs, adjustments, installation or other maintenance activities, Franchisee shall do so at such time as will cause the least inconvenience to Subscribers. Except where there exists an emergency situation necessitating a more expeditious procedure, the Franchisee may interrupt service for the purpose of repairing or testing the Cable System, only during periods of minimum use.

(b) Whenever the Franchisee takes up or disturbs any pavement, sidewalk or other improvement of any public right of way or public place, the same shall be replaced and the surface restored in as good condition as reasonably possible as before entry as soon as practicable, subject to all permitting and code specifications of general applicability. If not so repaired or restored, the Franchising Authority shall notify the Franchisee in writing and such repair or restoration shall be made within thirty (30) days, unless delayed by weather or events beyond the reasonable control of Franchisee, unless otherwise agreed by Franchisee and the Franchising Authority. Upon failure of the Franchisee to comply within the time specified (unless the Franchising Authority sets an extended time period for such restoration and repairs) or if such damage presents an emergency situation presenting a threat to public safety, the Franchising Authority may cause proper restoration and repairs to be made and the reasonable expense of such work shall be paid by the Franchisee upon demand by the Franchising Authority.

(c) Upon the failure, refusal or neglect of Franchisee to cause any work required by law or by this Renewal Franchise to be properly completed in any Public Way within the time prescribed, the Franchising Authority may cause such work or other act to be performed or completed in whole or in part, and prior to so doing shall submit to Franchisee in advance an itemized estimate of the cost thereof. Franchisee shall, within thirty (30) days after receipt of a statement of the actual cost incurred, pay to the Franchising Authority the entire amount thereof. The Franchising Authority, at its option, and in its sole discretion, may draw upon the bond described herein to recover any cost incurred pursuant to this section, should Franchisee fail to pay

such costs within thirty (30) days of receipt of the statement of these costs, subject to the Franchising Authority complying with the notice and opportunity to cure provisions of Section 9.9 below.

(d) The Franchisee shall be subject to all laws of general applicability regarding private property in the course of constructing, installing, operating and maintaining the Cable System in the Town. The Franchisee shall, at its sole cost and expense, promptly repair or replace all private property, real and personal, damaged or destroyed as a result of the construction, installation, operation or maintenance of the Cable System.

SECTION 4.3 - CABLE LOCATION

(a) In all areas of the Town where all of the transmission and distribution facilities of all public or municipal utilities are installed underground, Franchisee shall install its Cable System underground provided that such facilities are actually capable of receiving the Franchisee's cable and other equipment without technical degradation of the Cable System's signal quality.

(b) In all areas of the Town where public utility lines are aerially placed, if subsequently during the term of the Renewal Franchise such public utility lines are required by local ordinance or State law to be relocated aerially or underground, Franchisee shall similarly relocate its Cable System if it is given reasonable notice and access to the public and municipal utilities facilities at the time that such are placed underground. Any costs of relocating utility poles or trenching for the placement of underground conduits shall be proportionally shared by or reimbursed to, if applicable, all affected companies, as provided by law.

(c) Nothing in this Section 4.3 shall be construed to require the Franchisee to construct, operate, or maintain underground any ground-mounted appurtenances such as customer taps, line extenders, system passive devices, amplifiers, power supplies, pedestals, or other related equipment.

SECTION 4.4 - TREE TRIMMING AND HISTORIC DISTRICT

The Franchisee shall have authority to trim trees upon and overhanging public streets, alleys, sidewalks and ways and places of the Town so as to prevent the branches of such trees from coming in contact with the wires, cables and equipment of the Franchisee, in accordance

with applicable state law and any Town bylaws and regulations. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the authority granted herein to trim trees is subject to state law, including, but not limited to, state laws governing scenic roads, including but not limited to New Hampshire RSA 231:157 and 158. In addition, Franchisee shall comply with all ordinances, laws or regulations of general applicability pertaining to designated historic districts in the Town.

SECTION 4.5 - STRAND MAPS

Within sixty (60) days from an initial request in writing from the Franchising Authority, the Franchisee shall make available for review by the Franchising Authority a complete set of strand maps of the Service Area, and on which will show the Franchisee's cable in those areas in which its facilities exist and the location of all streets, subject to the provisions of Section 10.10. Upon sixty (60) days' written request by the Franchising Authority, but not more than once annually, Franchisee shall make updated maps available for review by the Franchising Authority, at a mutually agreed upon location.

SECTION 4.6 - BUILDING MOVES

In accordance with applicable laws, the Franchisee shall, upon the written request of any person holding a building moving permit issued by the Town, temporarily raise or lower its wires to permit the moving of the building(s). The Franchisee shall be given not less than thirty (30) days' advance written notice to arrange for such temporary wire changes. The cost to raise or lower wires shall be borne exclusively by the person(s) holding the building move permit.

SECTION 4.7 - DIG SAFE

The Franchisee shall comply with all applicable "dig safe" provisions, pursuant to RSA 374:51 of the New Hampshire Laws.

SECTION 4.8 - DISCONNECTION AND RELOCATION

(a) The Franchisee shall, at its sole cost and expense, protect, support, temporarily disconnect, relocate in the same street, or other Public Right of Ways, or remove from any street or any other Public Ways and places, any of its property as required by the Franchising Authority or its designee by reason of traffic conditions, public safety, street construction, change or establishment of street grade, or the construction of any public improvement or structure by any Town department acting in a governmental capacity.

(b) In requiring the Franchisee to protect, support, temporarily disconnect, relocate or remove any portion of its property, the Franchising Authority shall treat Franchisee the same as, and require no more of Franchisee, than any utility.

(c) In either case, the Franchisee shall have the right to seek reimbursement under any applicable insurance or government program for reimbursement.

SECTION 4.9 – PROHIBITION AGAINST RESELLING OF SERVICE

No Person shall resell, without the express prior written consent of the Franchisee, any Cable Service, program or signal transmitted over the Cable System by the Franchisee.

SECTION 4.10 - EMERGENCY POWER

The Cable System shall incorporate equipment capable of providing standby powering of the headend for a minimum of four (4) hours upon failure of the power furnished by the electric utility company, unless for reasons of force majeure.

ARTICLE 5
PROGRAMMING

SECTION 5.1 - BASIC CABLE SERVICE

The Franchisee shall make available a Basic Cable Service tier to all subscribers in accordance with 47 U.S.C. 534.

SECTION 5.2 - PROGRAMMING

(a) Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. 544, the Franchisee shall maintain the mix, quality and broad categories of Video Programming as set forth in **Exhibit B**. Pursuant to federal law, all Video Programming decisions, excluding PEG Access Programming, are at the sole discretion of the Franchisee.

(b) Franchisee shall comply with 47 C.F.R. 76.1603 of the FCC Rules and Regulations regarding notice of programming changes, and any successor regulations. A copy of the current regulation is attached as **Exhibit D**.

ARTICLE 6

PEG ACCESS CHANNEL(S) AND SUPPORT

SECTION 6.1 - PEG ACCESS CHANNEL(S)

(a) Franchisee shall provide two (2) PEG Access Channels. Said Access Channels shall be available on the Effective Date.

(b) The Franchisee shall maintain the PEG Access Channel(s), and shall monitor the PEG Access Channel(s) for technical signal quality and shall ensure that they are maintained at standards commensurate with those that apply to the Cable System's commercial Channels pursuant to FCC technical standards. The Franchising Authority shall be responsible for the picture quality of all PEG Access Programming at the demarcation point, which shall be the output of the modulator. To provide for adequate picture quality, the Franchise Authority's video signal shall meet National Television System Committee standards and/or the minimum operating input parameters of the modulators.

(c) Use of channel capacity for public, educational and governmental ("PEG") access shall be provided in accordance with federal law, 47 U.S.C. 531, and as further set forth below. Franchisee does not relinquish its ownership of or ultimate right of control over a channel by designating it for PEG use. A PEG access user, whether an individual, or an educational or governmental user, acquires no property or other interest by virtue of the use of a channel so designated and may not rely on the continued use of a particular channel number, no matter how long the same channel may have been designated for such use. Provided, however, the Franchisee shall seek to minimize changes to PEG Channel numbers and PEG Channel placement within programming tiers. Franchisee shall not exercise editorial control over any public, educational, or governmental use of channel capacity, except Franchisee may refuse to transmit any public access

program or portion of a public access program that contains obscenity, indecency, or nudity pursuant to Section 611 of the Cable Act. The Franchising Authority shall be responsible for developing, implementing, interpreting and enforcing rules for PEG Access Channel use which shall insure that PEG Access Channel(s) and PEG Access equipment will be available on a first-come non-discriminatory basis.

(d) The two PEG Access channels referenced in 6.1(a) are to be used for public access video programming provided by the Franchising Authority or its designee, educational access video programming provided by the Franchising Authority or designated educational institution, and governmental access video programming provided by the Franchising Authority. A Public, Educational and Governmental Access Channel may not be used to cablecast programs for profit, political or commercial fundraising in any fashion. Unused capacity may be utilized by Franchisee subject to the provisions set forth in subsection (f) below.

(e) In the event the Franchising Authority or other PEG access user elects not to fully program its Channel(s), Franchisee may reclaim any unused time on those channels.

SECTION 6.2 – VIDEO RETURN LINES

(a) The Franchisee shall continue to own, operate and maintain the existing Video Return Lines to be utilized by the Franchising Authority, its designees, Town departments and/or the Access Provider. Said Video Return Lines shall be capable of transmitting composite video and audio transmissions from the buildings identified in **Exhibit C** and returned over the Subscriber Network PEG Access Channels consistent with Sections 6.1 above. Said Video Return Lines shall be provided to the buildings listed in **Exhibit C**, without charge(s) to the Franchising Authority, its designees, Town departments and/or the Access Provider.

(b) The Franchisee shall continue to have the sole responsibility for operating and maintaining the Video Return Lines until the date the newly constructed Video Return Lines are activated, pursuant to Section 6.2(c) below. The Franchisee shall maintain the Video Return Lines

for video and accompanying audio signal quality, and perform all inspections and performance tests, as prescribed by FCC rules and regulations for a Cable System.

(c) Said VRL shall be capable of transmitting PEG Access Programming from the VRL Building identified in Exhibit C to the Franchisee-owned headend or hub site and then to the PEG Access Channels provided under Section 6.1 above.

(d) In accordance with applicable law, the Franchisee reserves the right to pass through the costs associated with the construction, activation, maintenance and repair of such VRL's. Upon the written request of the Franchising Authority, the Franchisee shall provide the Franchising Authority with a detailed written summary of the costs actually incurred by the Franchisee to construct and activate such new VRL's.

(e) The Franchisee shall own, operate, maintain and repair the VRL's and related equipment, and shall be responsible for all necessary inspections and performance tests of the VRL's. The Franchisee shall maintain the VRL's video and accompanying audio signal quality consistent with the FCC video and audio signal quality rules and regulations for a Cable System.

SECTION 6.2 - ACCESS CABLECASTING AND PICTURE QUALITY

(a) Unless otherwise provided herein, the Town and its designated users shall be solely responsible for any and all interface equipment, including but not limited to video production equipment. Franchisee shall be responsible for all equipment necessary to make interaction possible with the Cable System, excluding modulators.

(b) It shall be the Franchisee's sole responsibility to ensure that said Access Programming is automatically switched to the appropriate Access Channel(s) in an efficient and timely manner. The Franchisee shall not charge the Franchise Authority for such switching responsibility. The Franchisee and the Franchise Authority shall negotiate, in good faith, any difficulties that arise regarding cablecasting of Access Programming. The Franchisee shall provide and maintain all necessary switching and/or processing equipment located in its headend facility in order to switch upstream signals from the Town to the designated downstream Access Channel. Nothing herein shall require the Franchisee to provide any other switching equipment or any other end user equipment. The Franchising Authority or its designee shall be responsible for any manual switching necessary to cablecast Access Programming from any location specified in this Cable Television Franchise Renewal. The demarcation point between the equipment owned, operated and maintained by the Franchisee and the equipment owned, operated and maintained by the Town shall be the output of the modulator or equivalent transmitter and/or encoder.

SECTION 6.3 – PEG ACCESS CAPITAL SUPPORT

Franchisee shall provide a total capital payment of Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000) to the Franchising Authority, or its designee, to be used for the purchase of PEG Access equipment and or facilities. All equipment purchased with these funds will be owned, operated and maintained by the Town. Said payments, shall be paid by Franchisee as follows:

- (i) within one hundred twenty (120) days of the Effective Date of this Renewal Franchise, Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000);

Check made payable to:

Town of Weare/Community Access Television Fund
15 Flanders Memorial Road
Weare, NH 03281

SECTION 6.4 - PROGRAMMING EXCLUSIVITY AND NON-COMPETITION

The Franchising Authority, or its designee, agrees that it will not use its designated PEG Access channels, equipment, or other facilities to provide for-profit commercial services which have the effect of competing with the Franchisee's business. In addition, any Video Programming produced under the provisions of this Article 6 shall not be commercially distributed to a competing Multichannel Video Programming Distributor without the written consent of the Franchisee.

ARTICLE 7

CUSTOMER SERVICE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

SECTION 7.1 - CUSTOMER SERVICE

The Franchisee shall comply with all customer service regulations of the FCC (47 CFR §76.309) as they exist or as they may be amended from time to time. A copy of the current regulation is attached as **Exhibit E**.

SECTION 7.2 - SERVICE INTERRUPTIONS

In the event that the Franchisee's service to any Subscriber is completely interrupted for twenty-four (24) or more consecutive hours, the Franchisee will grant such Subscriber a pro rata credit or rebate upon request, on a daily basis, of that portion of the service charge during the next consecutive billing cycle, or at its option, apply such credit to any outstanding balance then currently due. In the instance of other individual Subscriber service interruptions, credits shall be applied as described above after due notice to the Franchisee from the Subscriber.

SECTION 7.3 - PROTECTION OF SUBSCRIBER PRIVACY

The Franchisee shall comply with all applicable federal and state privacy laws and regulations, including 47 U.S.C. 551 and regulations adopted pursuant thereto, as they may be amended. A copy of the current federal privacy law is attached as **Exhibit F**.

SECTION 7.4 – PROPRIETARY INFORMATION

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary set forth in this Franchise, the Franchisee shall not be required to disclose information which it reasonably deems to be proprietary or confidential in nature. The Franchising Authority agrees to treat any such information disclosed by the Franchisee as confidential and only to disclose it to those employees, representatives, and agents of the Franchising Authority that have a need to know in order to enforce this Franchise and who shall agree to maintain the confidentiality of all such information. The Franchisee shall not be required to provide Subscriber information in violation of 47 U.S.C. 551 or any other applicable federal or state privacy law. For purposes of this Section, the terms “proprietary or confidential” include, but are not limited to, information relating to the Cable System design, customer lists, marketing plans, financial information unrelated to the calculation of franchise fees or rates pursuant to FCC rules, or other information that is reasonably determined by the Franchisee to be competitively sensitive. In the event that the Franchising Authority receives a request under a state “sunshine,” public records or similar law for the disclosure of information the Franchisee has designated as confidential, trade secret or proprietary, the Franchising Authority shall notify Franchisee of such request and cooperate with Franchisee in opposing such request.

SECTION 7.5 - EMPLOYEE IDENTIFICATION CARDS

All of the Franchisee’s employees, including repair and sales personnel, entering private property shall be required to carry an employee identification card issued by the Franchisee. All of the Franchisee’s vehicles or Franchisee’s contractors’ vehicles which have direct contact with customers shall be placarded to identify them.

ARTICLE 8

PRICES AND CHARGES

SECTION 8.1 - PRICES AND CHARGES

(a) All rates, fees, charges, deposits and associated terms and conditions to be imposed by the Franchisee or any affiliated Person for any Cable Service as of the Effective Date shall be in accordance with applicable FCC's rate regulations and federal law, currently 47 U.S.C. 543. Before any new or modified rate, fee, or charge is imposed, the Franchisee shall follow the applicable FCC and State notice requirements and rules and notify affected Subscribers, which notice may be by any means permitted under applicable law. Nothing in this Renewal Franchise shall be construed to prohibit the reduction or waiver of charges in conjunction with promotional campaigns for the purpose of attracting or retaining Subscribers.

(b) The Franchising Authority acknowledges that under the 1992 Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act, certain costs of Public, Educational and Governmental ("PEG") Access and other Franchise/franchise requirements, may be passed through to the Subscribers in accordance with federal law.

ARTICLE 9

REGULATORY OVERSIGHT

SECTION 9.1-FRANCHISE FEE PAYMENTS

(a) The Franchisee shall provide franchise fees to the Town, equal to three percent (3.0%) of the Franchisee's Gross Annual Revenues, paid quarterly.

(b) The Franchisee's payments to the Town shall be made on a quarterly basis based on three (3) month calendar accounting periods and subsequent forty-five (45) day due dates.

(c) The final payment shall be based on the period from July 1, 2030 through July 16, 2030, and shall constitute three percent (3.0%) of the Franchisee's Gross Annual Revenues for that period. Said final payment shall then be due and payable no later than forty-five (45) days from the end of said period.

(d) In accordance with Section 622(b) of the Cable Act, the Franchisee shall not be liable for a total financial commitment pursuant to this Renewal Franchise and applicable law in excess of five percent (5%) of its Gross Annual Revenues; provided, however, that said five percent (5%) shall also include any amounts included in the term "Franchise Fee" pursuant to Section 622(g)(1) of the Cable Act), and any amounts described in Section 9.1(a) and 9.1(b), but shall not include the following: (i) interest due herein to the Franchising Authority because of late payments; (ii) capital payments made pursuant to Section 6.3 herein; and (iii) any other exclusion to the term "Franchise Fee" pursuant to Section 622(g)(2) of the Cable Act.

(e) All payments by the Franchisee to the Town pursuant to this Section shall be made payable to the Town and deposited with the Town Treasurer unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the parties.

SECTION 9.2 - INDEMNIFICATION

The Franchisee shall indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Franchising Authority, its officers, employees, and agents from and against any liability or claims resulting from property damage or bodily injury (including accidental death) that arise out of the Franchisee's construction, operation, maintenance or removal of the Cable System, including, but not limited to, reasonable attorney's fees and costs, provided that the Franchising Authority shall give the Franchisee written notice of its obligation to indemnify and defend the Franchising Authority within ten (10) business days of receipt of a claim or action pursuant to this Section. If the Franchising Authority determines that it is necessary for it to employ separate counsel, the costs for such separate counsel shall be the responsibility of the Franchising Authority.

SECTION 9.3 - INSURANCE

(a) The Franchisee shall carry insurance throughout the term of this Renewal Franchise and any removal period with an insurance company authorized to conduct business in New Hampshire satisfactory to the Franchising Authority protecting, as required in this Renewal Franchise, the Franchisee and listing the Town as an additional insured, against any and all claims for injury or damage to persons or property, both real and personal, caused by the construction, installation, operation, maintenance or removal of its Cable System. The amount of such insurance against liability for damage to property shall be no less than One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) as to any one occurrence. The amount of such insurance for liability for injury or death to any person shall be no less than One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000). The amount of such insurance for excess liability shall be Five Million Dollars (\$5,000,000) in umbrella form. Policy will contain a provision that the Franchising Authority will receive thirty (30) days' written notice prior to any cancellation.

(b) The Franchisee shall carry insurance against all claims arising out of the operation of motor vehicles and general tort or contract liability in the amount of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000). Policy will contain a provision that the Franchising Authority will receive thirty (30) days' written notice prior to any cancellation.

(c) All insurance coverage, including Workers' Compensation, shall be maintained throughout the period of this Renewal Franchise. All expenses incurred for said insurance shall be at the sole expense of the Franchisee. All policies will contain provisions that the Franchising Authority will receive thirty (30) days' written notice prior to any cancellation.

(d) The Franchisee shall provide Franchising Authority with certificate(s) of insurance for all policies required herein upon written request.

SECTION 9.4 - PERFORMANCE BOND

(a) The Franchisee has submitted and shall maintain throughout the duration of this Renewal Franchise and any removal period a performance bond in the amount of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) running to the Town with a surety company satisfactory to the Franchising Authority to guarantee the following terms, subject to Notice and Opportunity to Cure Section (9.9):

- (1) the satisfactory completion of the installation and operation of the Cable System in the time schedule provided herein;
- (2) the satisfactory restoration of pavements, sidewalks and other improvements;
- (3) the indemnity of the Town; and
- (4) the satisfactory removal or other disposition of the Cable System.

(b) The Franchisee shall not reduce the amount or cancel said bond, or materially change the terms of said bond from the provisions of Section 9.4(a) herein without the Franchising Authority's prior written consent. The Franchising Authority shall not unreasonably withhold its consent.

SECTION 9.5 - REPORTS

The Franchisee shall maintain for public inspection all records required by the FCC and by N.H. RSA 53-C:3-e.

SECTION 9.6 - ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW

(a) The Franchising Authority may make a written request, no more frequently than annually, and pursuant to Section 7.4 supra for an annual report to include at a minimum the information described in **Exhibit G**. Within sixty (60) days of such request, the Franchisee shall report to the Franchising Authority, in substantially the form attached hereto as **Exhibit G**.

(b) The Franchising Authority may hold a performance evaluation hearing within thirty (30) days of each anniversary of the Effective Date of this Renewal Franchise and/or upon thirty (30) days' prior written notice to the Franchisee. If Franchisee is unable to attend a particular hearing, it shall promptly notify the Franchising Authority either by phone or in writing, explaining in reasonable detail the reason(s) why a representative is unable to attend and shall propose an alternate date within twenty-one (21) days. All such evaluation hearings shall be open to the public. The purpose of said evaluation hearing shall be to review the Franchisee's compliance with the terms and conditions of this Renewal Franchise.

(c) The Franchising Authority shall have the right to question the Franchisee on any aspect of this Renewal Franchise including, but not limited to, the installation, operation and/or maintenance of the Cable System. During review and evaluation by the Franchising Authority, the Franchisee shall fully cooperate with the Franchising Authority and/or its designee, and produce such documents or other materials as are reasonably requested from the Town, pursuant to section 7.4 supra. Any Subscriber or other Person may submit comments during such review hearing, either orally or in writing.

(d) Within thirty (30) days after the conclusion of such review hearing(s), the Franchising Authority shall issue a written report with respect to the Franchisee's compliance with this Renewal Franchise and send one (1) copy to the Franchisee and file one (1) copy with the Town Clerk's Office. If inadequacies are found which result in a violation of any of any of the material terms and conditions of this Renewal Franchise, the Franchisee shall have an opportunity to respond and propose a plan for implementing any changes or improvements necessary, in accordance with Section 9.9.

SECTION 9.7 - EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Franchisee is an Equal Opportunity Employer and shall comply with federal and state law and applicable FCC regulations with respect to Equal Employment Opportunities.

SECTION 9.8 - REVOCATION OF FRANCHISE

Upon written notice, the Renewal Franchise issued hereunder may, after due process, opportunity to cure and public hearing held by the Franchising Authority, subject to any other rights available to the Franchisee, be revoked by the Franchising Authority for any of the following reasons:

- (a) For failure to file and maintain the performance bond as described in Section 9.4 (Performance Bond) or to maintain insurance as described in Section 9.3 (Insurance);
- (b) For repeated failure to maintain signal quality pursuant to the standards provided for by the FCC;
- (c) For any transfer or assignment of the Renewal Franchise without prior notice to the Franchising Authority in violation of Section 9.9 herein; and
- (d) For repeated failure to comply with the material terms and conditions of the Renewal Franchise.

SECTION 9.9 - NOTICE AND OPPORTUNITY TO CURE

In the event that the Franchising Authority has reason to believe that the Franchisee has defaulted in the performance of any or several provisions of this Renewal Franchise, except as excused by Force Majeure, the Franchising Authority shall notify the Franchisee in writing, by certified mail, of the provision or provisions which the Franchising Authority believes may have been in default and the details relating thereto. The Franchisee shall have ninety (90) days from the receipt of such notice to:

(a) respond to the Franchising Authority in writing, contesting the Franchising Authority's assertion of default and providing such information or documentation as may be necessary to support the Franchisee's position; or

(b) cure any such default (and provide written evidence of the same), or, in the event that, by nature of the default, such default cannot be cured within such ninety (90) day period, take reasonable steps to cure said default and diligently continue such efforts until said default is cured. The Franchisee shall report to the Franchising Authority, in writing, by certified mail, at forty-five (45) day intervals as to the Franchisee's efforts, indicating the steps taken by the Franchisee to cure said default and reporting the Franchisee's progress until such default is cured.

(c) In the event that (i) the Franchisee fails to respond to such notice of default; and/or (ii) the Franchisee fails to cure the default or to take reasonable steps to cure the default within the required ninety (90) day period; the Franchising Authority or its designee shall promptly schedule a public hearing no sooner than fourteen (14) days after written notice, by certified mail, to the Franchisee. The Franchisee shall be provided reasonable opportunity to offer evidence, question witnesses, if any, and be heard at such public hearing.

(d) Within thirty (30) days after said public hearing, the Franchising Authority shall issue a written determination of its findings. In the event that the Franchising Authority determines that the Franchisee is in such default, the Franchising Authority may determine to pursue any lawful remedy available to it.

(e) In the event that (i) the Franchising Authority fails to issue a written reply within 30 days accepting or rejecting Franchisee's response pursuant to 9.8(a) above; (ii) the Franchising Authority fails to issue a written acknowledgement after Franchisee's notice that it cured said default pursuant to 9.8(b) above; and/or (iii) the Franchising Authority fails to schedule a public hearing pursuant to Section 9.8(c) above; and/or (iv) the Franchising Authority fails to issue a written determination with thirty (30) days after the public hearing pursuant to Section 9.8(d) above, then the issue of said default against the Franchisee by the Franchising Authority shall be considered null and void.

SECTION 9.10 - TRANSFER OR ASSIGNMENT

This Renewal Franchise shall not be transferred or assigned without the prior written consent of the Franchising Authority, which consent shall not be arbitrarily or unreasonably withheld. No consent shall be required, however, for (i) a transfer in trust, by mortgage, hypothecation, or by assignment of any rights, title, or interest of the Franchisee in the Renewal Franchise or in the Cable System in order to secure indebtedness, or (ii) a transfer to an entity directly or indirectly owned or controlled by Comcast Corporation. The application for consent to an assignment or transfer shall be signed by the Franchisee and by the proposed assignee or transferee or by their representatives, evidence of whose authority shall be submitted with the application. Within thirty (30) days of receiving a request for consent, the Franchising Authority shall, in accordance with FCC rules and regulations, notify the Franchisee in writing of the additional information, if any, it requires to determine the legal, financial, and technical qualifications of the transferee or new controlling party. If the Franchising Authority has not taken action on the Franchisee's request for consent within one hundred twenty (120) days after receiving such request, consent shall be deemed given.

SECTION 9.11 - INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE

(a) All presently and hereafter applicable conditions and requirements of federal, state and local laws, including but not limited to the rules and regulations of the FCC and the State of New Hampshire, as they may be amended from time to time, are incorporated herein by reference, to the extent not enumerated herein. All such general laws, rules, and regulations, as amended, shall control the interpretation and performance of this Renewal Franchise to the extent that any provision of this Renewal Franchise conflicts with or is inconsistent with such laws, rules or regulations.

(b) Should the State of New Hampshire, the federal government or the FCC require the Franchisee to perform or refrain from performing any act the performance or non-performance of which is inconsistent with any provisions herein, the Franchising Authority and the Franchisee will thereupon, if they determine that a material provision herein is affected, modify any of the provisions herein to reflect such government action.

SECTION 9.12 - NO THIRD PARTY BENEFICIARIES

Nothing in this Renewal Franchise is intended to confer third-party beneficiary status on any member of the public to enforce the terms of this Renewal Franchise.

ARTICLE 10

MISCELLANEOUS

SECTION 10.1 - SEVERABILITY

If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or other portion of this Renewal Franchise is, for any reason, declared invalid, in whole or in part, by any court, agency, commission, legislative body, or other authority of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct, and independent portion. Such declaration shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions hereof, which other portions shall continue in full force and effect.

SECTION 10.2 - FORCE MAJEURE

If for any reason of force majeure the Franchisee is unable in whole or in part to carry out its obligations hereunder, said Franchisee shall not be deemed in violation or default during the continuance of such inability. Unless further limited elsewhere in this Franchise, the term "force majeure" as used herein shall have the following meaning: strikes; acts of God; acts of public enemies, orders of any kind of the government of the United States of America or of the State of New Hampshire or any of their departments, agencies, political subdivisions, or officials, or any civil or military authority; insurrections; riots, epidemics; landslides; lightning; earthquakes; tornados; fires; hurricanes; volcanic activity; storms; floods; washouts; droughts, arrests; civil disturbances; explosions; partial or entire failure of utilities; unavailability of materials and/or essential equipment, environmental restrictions or any other cause or event not reasonably within the Franchisee's control.

SECTION 10.3 - NOTICES

(a) Every notice to be served upon the Franchising Authority shall be delivered or sent by certified mail (postage prepaid) to the following address or such other address as the Franchising Authority may specify in writing to the Franchisee.

Town of Weare
Attn: Board of Selectmen
15 Flanders Memorial Road
Weare, NH 03281

(b) Every notice served upon the Franchisee shall be delivered or sent by certified mail (postage prepaid) to the following address or such other address as the Franchisee may specify in writing to the Franchising Authority.

Comcast Cable Communications, Inc.
Attn: Government & Community Relations
5 Omni Way
Chelmsford, MA 01824

with copies to:

Comcast Cable Communications, Inc.
Attn: Vice President, Government Affairs
676 Island Pond Road
Manchester, NH 03109

Comcast Cable Communications, Inc.
Attn: Government Affairs
One Comcast Center
Philadelphia, PA 19103

(c) Delivery of such notices shall be equivalent to direct personal notice, direction or order, and shall be deemed to have been given at the time of receipt.

SECTION 10.4 - ENTIRE AGREEMENT

This instrument contains the entire agreement between the parties, supersedes all prior agreements or proposals except as specifically incorporated herein, and cannot be changed without written amendment following publication of the proposed amendment in a manner consistent with the publication and notice provisions of RSA Chapter 43.

SECTION 10.5 - CAPTIONS

The captions to sections throughout this Renewal Franchise are intended solely to facilitate reading and reference to the sections and provisions of the Renewal Franchise. Such sections shall not affect the meaning or interpretation of the Renewal Franchise.

SECTION 10.6 - APPLICABILITY OF RENEWAL FRANCHISE

All of the provisions in this Renewal Franchise shall apply to the Town, the Franchisee, and their respective successors and assigns.

WITNESS OUR HANDS AND OFFICIAL SEAL, THIS 17th DAY OF JULY 2023.

TOWN OF WEARE

By:

Selectman

Selectman

Selectman

Selectman

Selectman

**COMCAST OF MAINE/NEW HAMPSHIRE,
INC.**

By:

Anthony M. Bowling
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EXHIBIT A
COURTESY DROPS TO
PUBLIC BUILDINGS ON
THE CABLE SYSTEM

Public School Buildings:

Center Woods Elementary School	14 Center Road
Weare Middle School	15 East Road
John Stark Regional High School	618 North Stark Highway

Municipal Buildings:

Town Offices	15 Flanders Memorial Road
Paige Memorial Library	10 Paige Memorial Lane
Safety Complex	144 North Stark Highway
Town Garage/Transfer Station	224 Merrill Road
Town Hall	16 North Stark Highway

**EXHIBIT B
PROGRAMMING**

Franchisee shall provide the following broad categories of Video Programming:

- News Programming;
- Sports Programming;
- Public Affairs Programming;
- Children’s Programming;
- Entertainment Programming; and
- Local Programming.

EXHIBIT C

NEW CABLE SYSTEM PEG ORIGINATION LOCATIONS

Town Offices

15 Flanders Memorial Road

Middle School

15 East Road

John Stark Regional High School

618 North Stark Highway

EXHIBIT D
CUSTOMER SERVICE REGULATIONS

United States Code of Federal Regulations

Title 47: Telecommunication

[PART 76—MULTICHANNEL VIDEO AND CABLE TELEVISION SERVICE](#)
[Subpart T—Notices](#)

§ 76.1602 Customer service—general information.

(a) A cable franchise authority may enforce the customer service standards set forth in paragraph (b) of this section against cable operators. The franchise authority must provide affected cable operators 90 days written notice of its intent to enforce standards.

(b) Effective July 1, 1993, the cable operator shall provide written information on each of the following areas at the time of installation of service, at least annually to all subscribers, and at any time upon request:

(1) Products and services offered;

(2) Prices and options for programming services and conditions of subscription to programming and other services;

(3) Installation and service maintenance policies;

(4) Instructions on how to use the cable service;

(5) Channel positions of programming carried on the system; and

(6) Billing and complaint procedures, including the address and telephone number of the local franchise authority's cable office.

(c) Subscribers shall be advised of the procedures for resolution of complaints about the quality of the television signal delivered by the cable system operator, including the address of the responsible officer of the local franchising authority.

United States Code of Federal Regulation

Title 47: Telecommunication

[PART 76—MULTICHANNEL VIDEO AND CABLE TELEVISION SERVICE](#)
[Subpart T—Notices](#)

§ 76.1603 Customer service—rate and service changes.

(a) A cable franchise authority may enforce the customer service standards set forth in paragraph (b) of this section against cable operators. The franchise authority must provide affected cable operators 90 days written notice of its intent to enforce standards.

(b) Customers will be notified of any changes in rates, programming services or channel positions as soon as possible in writing. Notice must be given to subscribers a minimum of thirty (30) days in advance of such changes if the change

is within the control of the cable operator. In addition, the cable operator shall notify subscribers 30 days in advance of any significant changes in the other information required by §76.1602.

(c) In addition to the requirement of paragraph (b) of this section regarding advance notification to customers of any changes in rates, programming services or channel positions, cable systems shall give 30 days written notice to both subscribers and local franchising authorities before implementing any rate or service change. Such notice shall state the precise amount of any rate change and briefly explain in readily understandable fashion the cause of the rate change (e.g., inflation, change in external costs or the addition/deletion of channels). When the change involves the addition or deletion of channels, each channel added or deleted must be separately identified. For purposes of the carriage of digital broadcast signals, the operator need only identify for subscribers, the television signal added and not whether that signal may be multiplexed during certain dayparts.

(d) A cable operator shall provide written notice to a subscriber of any increase in the price to be charged for the basic service tier or associated equipment at least 30 days before any proposed increase is effective. The notice should include the name and address of the local franchising authority.

(e) To the extent the operator is required to provide notice of service and rate changes to subscribers, the operator may provide such notice using any reasonable written means at its sole discretion.

(f) Notwithstanding any other provision of part 76 of this chapter, a cable operator shall not be required to provide prior notice of any rate change that is the result of a regulatory fee, franchise fee, or any other fee, tax, assessment, or charge of any kind imposed by any Federal agency, State, or franchising authority on the transaction between the operator and the subscriber.

Note 1 to §76.1603: Section 624(h) of the Communications Act, 47 U.S.C. 544(h), contains additional notification requirements which a franchising authority may enforce.

Note 2 to §76.1603: Section 624(d)(3) of the Communications Act, 47 U.S.C. 544(d)(3), contains additional notification provisions pertaining to cable operators who offer a premium channel without charge to cable subscribers who do not subscribe to such premium channel.

Note 3 to §76.1603: Section 631 of the Communications Act, 47 U.S.C. 551, contains additional notification requirements pertaining to the protection of subscriber privacy.

United States Code of Federal Regulations

Title 47: Telecommunication

[PART 76—MULTICHANNEL VIDEO AND CABLE TELEVISION SERVICE](#)

[Subpart T—Notices](#)

§ 76.1619 Information on subscriber bills.

(a) Effective July 1, 1993, bills must be clear, concise and understandable. Bills must be fully itemized, with itemizations including, but not limited to, basic and premium service charges and equipment charges. Bills will also clearly delineate all activity during the billing period, including optional charges, rebates and credits.

(b) In case of a billing dispute, the cable operator must respond to a written complaint from a subscriber within 30 days.

(c) A cable franchise authority may enforce the customer service standards set forth in this section against cable operators. The franchise authority must provide affected cable operators 90 days written notice of its intent to enforce standards.

EXHIBIT E
CUSTOMER SERVICE REGULATIONS

United States Code of Federal Regulations:

Title 47: Telecommunication

[PART 76—MULTICHANNEL VIDEO AND CABLE TELEVISION SERVICE](#)
[Subpart H—General Operating Requirements](#)

§ 76.309 Customer service obligations.

(a) A cable franchise authority may enforce the customer service standards set forth in paragraph (c) of this section against cable operators. The franchise authority must provide affected cable operators ninety (90) days written notice of its intent to enforce the standards.

(b) Nothing in this rule should be construed to prevent or prohibit:

(1) A franchising authority and a cable operator from agreeing to customer service requirements that exceed the standards set forth in paragraph (c) of this section;

(2) A franchising authority from enforcing, through the end of the franchise term, pre-existing customer service requirements that exceed the standards set forth in paragraph (c) of this section and are contained in current franchise agreements;

(3) Any State or any franchising authority from enacting or enforcing any consumer protection law, to the extent not specifically preempted herein; or

(4) The establishment or enforcement of any State or municipal law or regulation concerning customer service that imposes customer service requirements that exceed, or address matters not addressed by the standards set forth in paragraph (c) of this section.

(c) Effective July 1, 1993, a cable operator shall be subject to the following customer service standards:

(1) Cable system office hours and telephone availability—

(i) The cable operator will maintain a local, toll-free or collect call telephone access line which will be available to its subscribers 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

(A) Trained company representatives will be available to respond to customer telephone inquiries during normal business hours.

(B) After normal business hours, the access line may be answered by a service or an automated response system, including an answering machine. Inquiries received after normal business hours must be responded to by a trained company representative on the next business day.

(ii) Under normal operating conditions, telephone answer time by a customer representative, including wait time, shall not exceed thirty (30) seconds when the connection is made. If the call needs to be transferred, transfer time shall not exceed thirty (30) seconds. These standards shall be met no less than ninety (90) percent of the time under normal operating conditions, measured on a quarterly basis.

(iii) The operator will not be required to acquire equipment or perform surveys to measure compliance with the telephone answering standards above unless an historical record of complaints indicates a clear failure to comply.

(iv) Under normal operating conditions, the customer will receive a busy signal less than three (3) percent of the time.

(v) Customer service center and bill payment locations will be open at least during normal business hours and will be conveniently located.

(2) Installations, outages and service calls. Under normal operating conditions, each of the following four standards will be met no less than ninety five (95) percent of the time measured on a quarterly basis:

(i) Standard installations will be performed within seven (7) business days after an order has been placed. "Standard" installations are those that are located up to 125 feet from the existing distribution system.

(ii) Excluding conditions beyond the control of the operator, the cable operator will begin working on "service interruptions" promptly and in no event later than 24 hours after the interruption becomes known. The cable operator must begin actions to correct other service problems the next business day after notification of the service problem.

(iii) The "appointment window" alternatives for installations, service calls, and other installation activities will be either a specific time or, at maximum, a four-hour time block during normal business hours. (The operator may schedule service calls and other installation activities outside of normal business hours for the express convenience of the customer.)

(iv) An operator may not cancel an appointment with a customer after the close of business on the business day prior to the scheduled appointment.

(v) If a cable operator representative is running late for an appointment with a customer and will not be able to keep the appointment as scheduled, the customer will be contacted. The appointment will be rescheduled, as necessary, at a time which is convenient for the customer.

(3) Communications between cable operators and cable subscribers—

(i) Refunds—Refund checks will be issued promptly, but no later than either—

(A) The customer's next billing cycle following resolution of the request or thirty (30) days, whichever is earlier, or

(B) The return of the equipment supplied by the cable operator if service is terminated.

(ii) Credits—Credits for service will be issued no later than the customer's next billing cycle following the determination that a credit is warranted.

(4) Definitions—

(i) *Normal business hours* —The term "normal business hours" means those hours during which most similar businesses in the community are open to serve customers. In all cases, "normal business hours" must include some evening hours at least one night per week and/or some weekend hours.

(ii) *Normal operating conditions* —The term "normal operating conditions" means those service conditions which are within the control of the cable operator. Those conditions which are *not* within the control of the cable operator include, but are not limited to, natural disasters, civil disturbances, power outages, telephone network outages, and severe or unusual weather conditions. Those conditions which *are* ordinarily within the control of the cable operator include, but are not limited to, special promotions, pay-per-view events, rate increases, regular peak or seasonal demand periods, and maintenance or upgrade of the cable system.

(iii) *Service interruption* —The term "service interruption" means the loss of picture or sound on one or more cable channels.

Note to §76.309: Section 76.1602 contains notification requirements for cable operators with regard to operator obligations to subscribers and general information to be provided to customers regarding service. Section 76.1603 contains subscriber notification requirements governing rate and service changes. Section 76.1619 contains notification requirements for cable operators with regard to subscriber bill information and operator response procedures pertaining to bill disputes.

EXHIBIT F SUBSCRIBER PRIVACY

§ 551. Protection of subscriber privacy

(a) Notice to subscriber regarding personally identifiable information; definitions

(1) At the time of entering into an agreement to provide any cable service or other service to a subscriber and at least once a year thereafter, a cable operator shall provide notice in the form of a separate, written statement to such subscriber which clearly and conspicuously informs the subscriber of—

(A) the nature of personally identifiable information collected or to be collected with respect to the subscriber and the nature of the use of such information;

(B) the nature, frequency, and purpose of any disclosure which may be made of such information, including an identification of the types of persons to whom the disclosure may be made;

(C) the period during which such information will be maintained by the cable operator;

(D) the times and place at which the subscriber may have access to such information in accordance with subsection (d) of this section; and

(E) the limitations provided by this section with respect to the collection and disclosure of information by a cable operator and the right of the subscriber under subsections (f) and (h) of this section to enforce such limitations.

In the case of subscribers who have entered into such an agreement before the effective date of this section, such notice shall be provided within 180 days of such date and at least once a year thereafter.

(2) For purposes of this section, other than subsection (h) of this section—

(A) the term “personally identifiable information” does not include any record of aggregate data which does not identify particular persons;

(B) the term “other service” includes any wire or radio communications service provided using any of the facilities of a cable operator that are used in the provision of cable service; and

(C) the term “cable operator” includes, in addition to persons within the definition of cable operator in section 522 of this title, any person who

(i) is owned or controlled by, or under common ownership or control with, a cable operator, and

(ii) provides any wire or radio communications service.

(b) Collection of personally identifiable information using cable system

(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), a cable operator shall not use the cable system to collect personally identifiable information concerning any subscriber without the prior written or electronic consent of the subscriber concerned.

(2) A cable operator may use the cable system to collect such information in order to—

(A) obtain information necessary to render a cable service or other service provided by the cable operator to the subscriber; or

(B) detect unauthorized reception of cable communications.

(c) Disclosure of personally identifiable information

(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), a cable operator shall not disclose personally identifiable information concerning any subscriber without the prior written or electronic consent of the subscriber concerned and shall take such actions as are necessary to prevent unauthorized access to such information by a person other than the subscriber or cable operator.

(2) A cable operator may disclose such information if the disclosure is—

(A) necessary to render, or conduct a legitimate business activity related to, a cable service or other service provided by the cable operator to the subscriber;

(B) subject to subsection (h) of this section, made pursuant to a court order authorizing such disclosure, if the subscriber is notified of such order by the person to whom the order is directed;

(C) a disclosure of the names and addresses of subscribers to any cable service or other service, if—

(i) the cable operator has provided the subscriber the opportunity to prohibit or limit such disclosure, and

(ii) the disclosure does not reveal, directly or indirectly, the—

- (I) extent of any viewing or other use by the subscriber of a cable service or other service provided by the cable operator, or
- (II) the nature of any transaction made by the subscriber over the cable system of the cable operator; or

(D) to a government entity as authorized under chapters 119, 121, or 206 of title 18, except that such disclosure shall not include records revealing cable subscriber selection of video programming from a cable operator.

(d) Subscriber access to information

A cable subscriber shall be provided access to all personally identifiable information regarding that subscriber which is collected and maintained by a cable operator. Such information shall be made available to the subscriber at reasonable times and at a convenient place designated by such cable operator. A cable subscriber shall be provided reasonable opportunity to correct any error in such information.

(e) Destruction of information

A cable operator shall destroy personally identifiable information if the information is no longer necessary for the purpose for which it was collected and there are no pending requests or orders for access to such information under subsection (d) of this section or pursuant to a court order.

(f) Civil action in United States district court; damages; attorney's fees and costs; nonexclusive nature of remedy

(1) Any person aggrieved by any act of a cable operator in violation of this section may bring a civil action in a United States district court.

(2) The court may award—

(A) actual damages but not less than liquidated damages computed at the rate of \$100 a day for each day of violation or \$1,000, whichever is higher;

(B) punitive damages; and

(C) reasonable attorneys' fees and other litigation costs reasonably incurred.

(3) The remedy provided by this section shall be in addition to any other lawful remedy available to a cable subscriber.

(g) Regulation by States or franchising authorities

Nothing in this subchapter shall be construed to prohibit any State or any franchising authority from enacting or enforcing laws consistent with this section for the protection of subscriber privacy.

(h) Disclosure of information to governmental entity pursuant to court order

Except as provided in subsection (c)(2)(D) of this section, a governmental entity may obtain personally identifiable information concerning a cable subscriber pursuant to a court order only if, in the court proceeding relevant to such court order—

(1) such entity offers clear and convincing evidence that the subject of the information is reasonably suspected of engaging in criminal activity and that the information sought would be material evidence in the case; and

(2) the subject of the information is afforded the opportunity to appear and contest such entity's claim.

EXHIBIT G
ANNUAL REPORT

Location and hours of Payment Centers:

Telephone Hours:

Customer Service Telephone Number:

Local Emergency Contact for Franchising Authority use for technical matters:

Name:
Phone Number:
E-mail:
Address:
Cell Number:

Location of Headend (Reception Facility):

Miles of Cable Plant in Weare:

Number of Weare Subscribers:

System Reliability Percentage:

Statement by duly authorized representative of the Franchisee of Gross Annual Revenues and

Franchise Fees Paid:

Copies of customer complaint logs, with personally identifiable information redacted, are available for review by an authorized representative of the Franchising Authority at Franchisee's local business office.