

**Summary of Public Testimony – Proposed Qwest Franchise  
Received by August 13, 2007**

Please note: The public testimony references the draft franchise dated July 13, 2007. Since that time, staff has corrected section numbering, typos, spelling and section references. Therefore, some of the franchise section numbers referenced in the public testimony do not correspond with the Sept. 7, 2007, draft franchise.

**ORGANIZATIONS & COMPANIES:**

Cascade Policy Institute: Supports competition; reduces rates and improves customer service.

Citizen's Utility Board (CUB): Supports Franchise as presented: Supports consumer protection provisions (ie. Anti-redlining language; customer service standards; and price competition); and importance of precedent setting for future applicants (ie. Sets stage for any future applicants to meet current public service and consumer protection obligations).

Comcast: Does not support Franchise as presented: franchise lacks language enforcing build out or any MHCRC oversight to ensure services will be built uniformly throughout the franchise area; the definition of gross revenues in the Qwest franchise differs from the definition Comcast abides by and therefore puts Comcast at a competitive disadvantage. Comcast welcomes new competition as long as it's on a level playing field. *In addition to making a statement at the public hearing, Comcast submitted two letters dated July 27, 2007 and August 13, 2007.*

Communications Workers of America-Local 7901 (CWA): Supports a "union" option for cable consumers (Comcast is not a unionized company); supports anti-redlining; encouraged Qwest to build out to all areas of telephone service footprint.

Ethos: Supports Franchise as presented: importance of public interest obligations, Capital Grant Program, PEG access and I-Net provisions.

Film Action Oregon: Supports Franchise as presented: importance of public interest obligations, Capital Grant Program, PEG access and I-Net provisions.

Hillsdale Neighborhood Association: Concerned about need for undergrounding utilities in designated "Town Centers," and requiring this in cable franchises.

Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber: Supports Franchise as presented: supports benefits of competition and access to a variety of programming options of interest to Latino families.

MetroEast Community Media: Supports Franchise as presented: provision of PEG and I-Net public benefits; payment of franchise fees; and good precedent for other cable applicants.

Multnomah County Libraries: Supports Franchise as presented: importance of public interest obligations – specifically I-Net provisions.

Oregon Alliance to Reform Media (Oregon ARM): Supports Franchise as presented: importance of PEG access, I-Net provisions and other public interest obligations in all franchises.

Oregon Association of Minority Entrepreneurs (OAME): Supports Franchise as presented: supports competition for services; Qwest has history of supporting minority, women and emerging small businesses; additional benefits for PEG access; support anti-redlining provisions.

Oregon Cable Telecommunications Association (OCTA): Supports competition in cable services: telecomm companies should be required to build out full area within a certain time period; and objects to Sec. 15.1(D) regarding language favorable to Qwest in dispositions of lawsuits.

Portland Community Media: Supports Franchise as presented: supports PEG access and I-Net provisions; service to schools; incentive-based build out requirements and anti-redlining protections.

Qwest: Supports Franchise as presented: showed maps and diagrams of Qwest's proposed deployment in the City to demonstrate that Qwest has not "redlined" in its deployment of services based on income level; another map identified Qwest's fiber to the node routes for 2007. *In addition to making a statement at the public hearing, Qwest provided a letter dated August 9, 2007.*

Urban League of Portland: Supports Franchise as presented: supports benefits of competition; supports incentive-based build out requirements and anti-redlining protections.

## **INDIVIDUALS:**

Bsungrodt (email name; no additional name provided): support competition in marketplace.

Bob Hedlund (PCM Producer): importance of PEG Access funding and public access.

Ken Knudson: competition a positive step; concerned about buildout and availability of service to all areas of Portland (equated with lack of universal availability of Qwest DSL service).

Wesley Risher (member of the Utilities Undergrounding Citizen's Advisory Committee-UUCAC): Concerned about need for undergrounding utilities in designated "Town Centers," and requiring this in cable franchises.

Joella Werlin: concerned about universal service availability (equated with DSL service unavailable to Macintosh users because small category of users not economically worthwhile for Qwest).

Jim Wrathall (PCM Producer): importance of public interest obligations; importance of PEG Access funding and public access.

Attachments: Attachments include written comment received by August 13, 2007.