



Agenda Date: 2/18/26
Agenda Item: IVD

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
Board of Public Utilities
44 South Clinton Avenue, 1st Floor
Post Office Box 350
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0350
www.nj.gov/bpu/

OFFICE OF CABLE TELEVISION
AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF COMCAST)
OF MONMOUTH COUNTY, LLC FOR A RENEWAL)
CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL TO CONTINUE TO)
CONSTRUCT, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN A CABLE)
TELEVISION SYSTEM IN AND FOR THE)
TOWNSHIP OF HAZLET, COUNTY OF)
MONMOUTH, STATE OF NEW JERSEY) DOCKET NO. CE25020034

Parties of Record:

Stan Barrett, Esq., Brach Eichler LLC, on behalf of Comcast of Monmouth County, LLC
Mary Lynch, Clerk, Township of Hazlet, New Jersey

BY THE BOARD:¹

On October 24, 1979, the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (“Board”) granted Futurevision Cable Enterprises, Inc. a Certificate of Approval (“Certificate”) in Docket No. 796C-6496 for the construction, operation and maintenance of a cable television system in the Township of Hazlet (“Township”). Through a series of transfers with required Board approvals, Comcast Cablevision of Monmouth County, Inc. (“Comcast”) became the holder of the Certificate. On March 28, 1996, the Board granted Comcast a Renewal Certificate of Approval (“Renewal Certificate”) for the Township in Docket No. CE95110528. Based on a name change, the current holder of the Certificate is Comcast of Monmouth County, LLC (“Petitioner”). On April 27, 2011, the Board issued a Renewal Certificate to the Petitioner in Docket No. CE11010016. Although the Petitioner’s Renewal Certificate expired on October 24, 2024, it is authorized to continue to provide cable television service to the Township pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:5A-25, pending disposition of proceedings regarding its Renewal Certificate.

The petition is based on the Township’s ordinance adopted on August 3, 2010, granting renewal municipal consent to the Petitioner. The Petitioner accepted the ordinance on September 28, 2010, which provided for an initial term of fifteen (15) years, expiring on October 24, 2024, with an automatic renewal term of ten (10) years.

¹ Commissioners Rebhorn and Coviello abstained from voting on this matter.

On September 24, 2024, the Petitioner notified the Township of its intention to exercise its right under the automatic renewal provision of the Township's municipal consent and the Renewal Certificate. No objections were received from the Township. On February 4, 2025, the Petitioner filed with the Board for Automatic Renewal of its Renewal Certificate for the Township, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:5A-15,16, 17, 19, and 25 and N.J.A.C. 14:17-6.9 and 14:18-13.6 ("Petition").

DISCUSSION AND FINDINGS

The Board has reviewed the Petition and the application filed therein by the Petitioner. Based upon this review and the recommendation of the Office of Cable Television and Telecommunications, the Board **HEREBY FINDS** the following:

1. The Petitioner possesses the requisite legal, character, financial, and technical qualifications for the awarding of a Renewal Certificate, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:5A-22 to 29, N.J.A.C. 14:18-13.1 to 13.9.
2. The design and technical specifications of the system shall ensure that the Petitioner provides safe, adequate, and proper service.
3. The Petitioner has represented that all previously required construction within the franchise territory is complete.
4. The franchise period as stated in the ordinance is ten (10) years from the expiration date, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:5A-19 and 25. The Board finds this franchise period reasonable.
5. The Township has reserved the right to review the Petitioner's performance with regard to the ordinance. In the event that the Township shall find that the Petitioner has not substantially complied with the material terms and conditions of the ordinance, the Township shall have the right to petition the Board for appropriate administrative action, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:5A-47; provided however, that the Township shall first have given the Petitioner written notice of all alleged instances of non-compliance and an opportunity to cure the same within ninety (90) days of that notification.
6. The Petitioner shall maintain an informational schedule of prices, terms and conditions for unregulated service, and promptly file any revisions thereto.
7. Pursuant to statutory requirements, the ordinance specifies a complaint officer to receive and act upon complaints filed by subscribers in the Township. In this case, it is the Office of Cable Television and Telecommunications. All complaints shall be received and processed in accordance with any applicable rules.
8. The Petitioner shall maintain a local business office or agent for the purpose of receiving, investigating and resolving complaints. The Petitioner currently maintains a local office located at 310 State Route 36, West Long Branch, New Jersey
9. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:5A-30, the franchise fee to be paid to the Township is specified to be three and one-half percent (3.5%) of the Petitioner's gross revenues, as defined in N.J.S.A. 48:5A-3(x), derived from cable television charges or fees paid by subscribers for its cable television service in the Township. Additional regulatory fees shall be paid to the State in an amount not to exceed two percent (2%) of Petitioner's

- gross operating revenues derived from intrastate operations. The Board finds these fees to be reasonable.
10. The Petitioner shall provide service to any person's residence or business located in the primary service area as indicated on the map on file with the Office of Cable Television and Telecommunications at no cost beyond standard and non-standard installation charges. For any extension outside of the Primary Service Area, the Petitioner shall utilize the line extension policy ("LEP") attached to the Certificate. The minimum homes per mile figure is thirty-five (35).
 11. The Petitioner shall provide public, educational, and governmental ("PEG") access channels and facilities in accordance with its renewal application and the ordinance. The Petitioner shall continue to provide the Township with a dedicated municipal/governmental access channel for use by the Township and its designees for the purpose of cablecasting non-commercial public, educational and governmental programming. The Petitioner will continue to provide an educational access channel. Currently, the channel is operated and maintained by the Brookdale Community College. The Petitioner shall continue to provide a system-wide shared public access channel for the purpose of cablecasting non-commercial access programming for individuals, groups and organizations from the municipalities that the Petitioner serves.
 12. The Petitioner shall provide Total Preferred cable television service, on one (1) outlet, free of charge to each school in the Township, public and private, elementary, intermediate and secondary. In order to qualify for free installation, the school must be located within 175 feet of active cable distribution plant. Each additional outlet installed, if any, shall be paid for on a materials plus labor basis by the school requesting service. The Petitioner shall waive monthly service charges for any such additional outlets.
 13. The Petitioner shall provide Total Preferred cable television service, on one (1) outlet, free of charge, to each of the following municipal buildings: a) police; b) fire; c) emergency management facility; and d) public library in the Township. In order to qualify for free installation, the facility must be located within 175 feet of active cable distribution plant. The Township shall pay for each additional outlet installed to any of the above facilities on a materials plus labor basis, however, the Petitioner shall waive monthly service charges for any such additional outlets.

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

Therefore, the Petitioner is **HEREBY ISSUED** this Automatic Renewal Certificate of Approval as evidence of the Petitioner's authority to construct and operate a cable television system within the entirety of the Township.

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

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

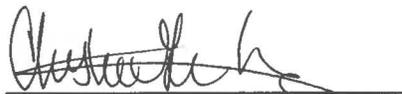
The Board **HEREBY ORDERS** the Automatic Renewal Certificate of Approval be issued on the representation that the statements contained in the Petitioner's applications are true, and the undertakings therein contained shall be adhered to and be enforceable unless specific waiver is granted by the Office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

This Certificate shall expire October 24, 2034.

This Order shall be effective on February 25, 2026.

DATED: February 18, 2026

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
BY:


CHRISTINE GUHL-SADOVX
PRESIDENT


DR. ZENON CHRISTODOULOU
COMMISSIONER


MICHAEL BANGE
COMMISSIONER

ATTEST: 
SHERRI L. LEWIS
BOARD SECRETARY

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF COMCAST OF MOUNMOUTH COUNTY, LLC FOR A
RENEWAL CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL TO CONTINUE TO CONSTRUCT, OPERATE AND
MAINTAIN A CABLE TELEVISION SYSTEM IN AND FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF HAZLET, COUNTY OF
MONMOUTH, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DOCKET NO. CE25020034

SERVICE LIST

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

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

Mary Lynch
Township Clerk
Township of Hazlet
1766 Union Avenue
Hazlet, NJ 07730
mlynch@hazletnj.org

Robert Clifton,
Senior Director Govt. & Regulatory Affairs
Comcast
403 South Street
Eatontown, NJ 07724
robert_clifton@comcast.com

Meliha Arnautovic
Deputy Attorney General
NJ Department of Law & Public Safety
Richard J. Hughes Justice Complex
Public Utilities Section
25 Market Street,
Post Office Box 112
Trenton, NJ 08625
meliha.arnautovic@law.njoag.gov

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

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

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

Office of Cable Television and
Telecommunications

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

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

Ashley Bliss, Administrative Analyst 1
ashley.bliss@bpu.nj.gov

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

Elsbeth Faiman Hans, Deputy General Counsel
elsbeth.hans@bpu.nj.gov

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

TyShawn Key, Associate Counsel
tyshawn.key@bpu.nj.gov