

QUESTIONS FOR THE RECORD FOR MR. DAVID COHEN AND MR. ARTHUR MINSON, JR.:

- 1. I have heard concerns that the proposed Comcast/Time Warner Cable merger will hinder the ability of independent television networks to get carried by cable providers. How would the Comcast/Time Warner Cable merger affect the ability of independent networks, like INSP (also known as Inspiration Network), to get carried by Comcast?**

Response: The proposed transaction will not have any impact on our ability to carry independent networks, including INSP. Comcast has a stellar record of commitment to providing carriage of independent programmers. Comcast carries over 160 independent networks, including many small, diverse, and international ones. *Six of every seven* networks carried by Comcast are unaffiliated with the company. Since the NBCUniversal transaction, Comcast has launched several new independent networks (including ASPIRE, BabyFirst Americas, El Rey, and REVOLT) and has supported the development of several more. Comcast also expanded distribution of over 120 independent programmers since 2011. As Charles Segars, CEO of the Ovation Network, recently wrote in the *Los Angeles Times*, “Comcast has been a good friend and ally to the independent programming community, bringing unique content to an underserved audience. . . . This merger will be a boon for unique, independent programmers.” Charles Segars, Letter to the Editor, L.A. Times, Feb. 16, 2014, <http://articles.latimes.com/2014/feb/16/opinion/la-le-0216-sunday-comcast-time-warner-20140216>.

Although network subscriber counts are confidential, Comcast has doubled the number of subscribers that can access the INSP network since 2011, and it is available in millions of homes served by Comcast.

- 2. Why do independent television networks, like INSP, that are fast growing and have consistently increasing ratings - higher than a large portion of the higher-profile networks carried - have to pay service providers, when those other networks actually get paid licensing fees?**

Response: It is very common for cable networks to pay launch, marketing, and other support and incentives to cable operators as a part of initial carriage agreements. Some of the most popular cable networks today started by paying operators for launch; otherwise consumers would bear the expense. As networks gain popularity, and depending on other market conditions, they can and often do seek license fees from cable operators in carriage renewals. In the case of INSP, in recent years Comcast has doubled carriage of the network while another major national competitor has recently dropped the channel.