



TENNESSEE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

**Andrew Jackson Building
502 Deaderick Street 4th Floor
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0505**

December 31, 2021

City of Decherd
ATTN: Mayor Michael Gillespie
P O Box 488,
Decherd, TN 37324

RE: **NOTICE** of TPUC Receipt of Application for or Amendment to Certificate of Franchise Authority and **OFFICIAL REQUEST** for Information

Dear Mayor Gillespie:

On December 27, 2021 United Telephone Company ("United") filed with the Tennessee Public Utility Commission ("TPUC" or "Department") an amendment to expand its state-issued franchise service area to include portions of your city. By this time, you should have already received notice from United of its intention to serve your area. You may access this and other related filings on the TPUC's website and look under Dockets, Docket 11-00208. The Department is required to send this notice so that you may act to preserve your Public, Educational and Governmental ("PEG") channels and PEG access support payments under Tenn. Code Ann. § 7-59-309.¹

If an incumbent cable TV provider currently serves your municipality,² and that provider's franchise requires that it provide PEG channels or access payments, then you may be able to receive the same number of PEG channels and equivalent support payments from United. But, in order to claim these benefits, you must provide the TPUC with information about the PEG channels negotiated under your incumbent provider's franchise *within ten (10) days* from the date you received notice from United that it intended to provide cable or video service to your municipality, specifically:

- (1) The number of PEG channels that have been activated by the incumbent;
- (2) The number of PEG channels that are authorized to be activated under the incumbent franchise; and,
- (3) The amount of any fee or other payment for PEG access support required under the incumbent franchise.³

Please send the above information to:

**Tennessee Public Utility Commission
ATTN: Docket Room (11-00208)
502 Deaderick Street 4th Floor
Nashville, TN 37243**

If you have already forwarded this information to the TPUC upon receipt of the notice from the applicant or state-issued franchise service provider in accordance with Tenn. Code Ann. § 7-59-309(a), please disregard this request. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter, please feel free to contact me at (615) 770-6889 or at the address listed above. Thank you for your cooperation and prompt attention in this matter.

Sincerest Regards,

John Hutton
Telecommunications Consultant

¹ See Tenn. Code Ann. § 7-59-314(b)(1).

² This means the franchised cable service provider with the most subscribers in your municipality on January 1, 2008, whether or not the local franchise agreement had expired on July 1, 2008 (Tenn. Code Ann. § 7-59-309(a)(1)).

³ See Tenn. Code Ann. § 7-59-309(a)(1).