## SCARINCI HOLLENBECK

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BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

FEB 06 2017

MAIL RECEIVED

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February 2, 2017

Irene Kim Asbury, Secretary Board of Public Utilities 44 South Clinton Avenue 3rd Floor, Suite 314 PO Box 350 Trenton, NJ 08625

CE 17020093
In the Matter of the Petition of Comcast of South Jersey, LLC, for a Renewal Certificate Re: of Approval to Continue to Construct, Operate and Maintain a Cable Television System in and for the Township of Lawrence, County of Cumberland, State of New Jersey Our File No. 41000.3000

Dear Secretary Asbury:

Enclosed herewith please find the original and eleven (11) copies of the Verified Petition and Verification filed on behalf of Comcast of South Jersey, LLC ("Comcast"), along with three (3) copies of Comcast's public Application for Renewal of a Certificate of Approval ("Application"), with respect to the above-referenced matter. Said copies of the Application have been redacted so as to protect certain confidential information contained therein. Confidential copies of the Application are being submitted simultaneously under separate cover, along with Comcast's request for confidential treatment, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 14:1-12 et seq.

Kindly file the Petition and please return the extra copy of this letter and Petition stamped "RECEIVED" in the self-addressed, stamped envelope provided herein.

Thank you for your kind consideration. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Very truly yours,

Dennis C. Linken

Dennis Linken 1dp

For the Firm

DCL:dp

cc:w/enc. Lawanda R. Gilbert, Acting Director (via first class mail)

Maria T. Novas-Ruiz, Assistant Deputy Rate Counsel (via first class mail)

Ruth Dawson, Township Clerk (via first class mail)

Fred J. DeAndrea, Director of Government and Regulatory Affairs (via first class mail)

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES OFFICE OF CABLE TELEVISION & TELECOMMUNICATIONS

FEB 0 6 2017

MAIL RECEIVED

SCARINCI & HOLLENBECK, LLC 1100 Valley Brook Avenue Lyndhurst, NJ 07071-0790 Phone: 201-896-4100 Attorneys for Petitioner Comcast of South Jersey, LLC File No. 41000.3000

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

VERIFIED PETITION

Docket No.

Comcast of South Jersey, LLC (hereinafter, "Comcast" or "Petitioner"), hereby petitions the Honorable Board of Public Utilities (the "Board"), pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:5A-15, 16 and 17, and N.J.A.C. 14:18-13.6, for renewal of a Certificate of Approval to continue to construct, operate and maintain a cable television system ("System") in the Township of Lawrence, Cumberland County, New Jersey ("Township" or "Lawrence"). In support of its Petition, Petitioner states as follows:

### COUNT ONE

1. Comcast, a limited liability company duly organized under the laws of the State of Delaware, is a cable television company subject to the jurisdiction of the Office of Cable Television & Telecommunications ("OCTV&T&T") and the Board, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:5A-1 et seq.

- Comcast maintains its principal offices at 1846 N. West Blvd., Vineland, New Jersey 08360.
- 3. On or about July 8, 1986, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:5A-17, in Docket No. CE84570701, the Board issued a Certificate of Approval to Cablentertainment of New Jersey V ("Cablentertainment") to provide cable television service within the Township. A copy of said Certificate of Approval is on file at the OCTV&T&T.
- 4. On or about December 18, 1986, in Docket No. CM86101185, the Board approved the transfer of the System from Cablentertainment to Sammons Communications of New Jersey, Inc. ("Sammons").
- On or about October 21, 1987, the Board approved the transfer of the System, including the Certificate of Approval with respect to the Township, from Sammons to Clover Cable Systems, Inc. ("Clover").
- 6. On or about July 18, 1989, in Docket No. CM89050489, the Board approved the transfer of the System, including the Certificate of Approval with respect to the Township, from Clover to Atlantic Cable Television Limited Partnership ("Atlantic").
- 7. On or about March 31, 1993, in Docket No. CM92101022, the Board approved the transfer of the System, including the Certificate of Approval with respect to the Township, from Atlantic to South Jersey Cablevision Associates ("SJCA").
- 8. On or about May 20, 1986, in Docket No. CM95120611, the Board approved the transfer of the System, including the Certificate of Approval with respect to the Township, from SJCA to Lenfest Atlantic, Inc. ("Lenfest").
- 9. On January 18, 2000, pursuant to the Order of Approval issued by the Board in Docket No. CM99110855, Lenfest became an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of Comcast Corporation. Subsequently, on or about September 13, 2000, Lenfest's name was formally changed to Comcast Cablevision of South Jersey, Inc., which, effective May 13, 2004, was converted to Comcast of South Jersey, LLC, Petitioner herein.

- 10. On or about April 9, 2002, in Docket No. CE01060395, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:5A-16 and 17, the Board issued a Renewal Certificate of Approval to Petitioner for the continued construction, operation and maintenance of the System in and for the Township. A copy of said Certificate of Approval is on file at the OCTV&T&T.
- 11. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:5A-1 *et seq.* and N.J.A.C. 14:18-13.3(a)3, on or about October 7, 2015, Petitioner submitted an Application for Renewal of Municipal Consent (hereinafter the "Municipal Application") to continue to construct, operate and maintain the System in the Township.
- 12. On or about May 9, 2016, a public hearing was held by the Township with respect to Petitioner's Municipal Application, during which all interested persons desiring to be heard were so heard.
- 13. On or about December 12, 2016, the Township adopted Ordinance # 395-2016 (the "Ordinance") granting to Petitioner renewal of its Municipal Consent ("Renewal of Municipal Consent") to continue to construct, operate and maintain the System in the Township. A copy of said Ordinance is annexed hereto as Exhibit A.
- 14. On or about January 3, 2017, Comcast filed its formal acceptance of the terms and conditions of the Renewal of Municipal Consent granted by the Township, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 48:5A-24. A copy of said letter of acceptance is annexed hereto as Exhibit B.
- 15. The information pertaining to Petitioner on file with the OCTV&T&T, together with the information contained in Petitioner's Municipal Application and its Application for Renewal of a Certificate of Approval ("COA Application"), simultaneously filed herewith, all of which is adopted by reference thereto, establish the requisite criteria for the continued construction, ownership, operation and management of the System in Lawrence by Comcast.

- operation of the System. Further, as indicated in the Municipal Application, the COA Application and other information on file with the OCTV&T, Comcast possesses the necessary financial responsibility and the ability to perform efficiently the proposed services and those services which may be required by the public convenience and necessity during the renewal period. The public convenience and necessity generally support the appropriateness of the issuance of a renewal Certificate of Approval to Petitioner.
- 17. Petitioner has complied, and will continue to comply, with all rules, regulations and laws applicable to the construction, operation and maintenance of the System and will continue to provide safe, adequate and proper cable television service in Lawrence and the other municipalities in which it serves.

### **COUNT TWO**

- 18. Comcast repeats paragraphs 1 through 17 of COUNT ONE as if set forth fully hereinafter.
- 19. As set forth in the Municipal Application and the COA Application, and as stated during the public hearing with respect to the Municipal Application, the System operated by Comcast in the Township is part of a larger cable television system serving numerous other municipalities contiguous to and surrounding the Township.
- 20. As also set forth in the Municipal Application and the COA Application, the Township represents an integral part of the regional Comcast cable television systems serving the counties of Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem. In addition, the demographics of Lawrence, as well as its location and other factors, mandate that cable

television service be provided by Comcast as part of Comcast's and its affiliates' regional systems.

- 21. The Township portion of Comcast's and its affiliates' Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, Cumberland, Gloucester and Salem regional cable systems is necessary for the continued provision of safe, adequate and economical cable television service to the citizens and residents of the Township and the larger cable television systems generally. Further, continuation of Comcast's operating authority in the Township will avoid an unreasonable duplication of services which would otherwise be detrimental to the development of adequate cable television service.
- 22. Comcast is entitled to a renewal of its Municipal Consent and Certificate of Approval, pursuant to the provisions of Section 17(b) of the New Jersey Cable Television Act, N.J.S.A. 48:5A-1 et seq.
- 23. Comcast believes that a Renewal Certificate of Approval for the Township of Lawrence is necessary and proper for the public convenience and will serve the public interest for reasons which include, *inter alia*, the following:
- a. The grant of a Renewal Certificate of Approval to Comcast will ensure the continued provision of cable television service to the residents of the Township;
- b. The services to be provided by Comcast set forth in its Municipal Application and its COA Application are of great benefit to the citizens and residents of the Township;
- c. The financial strength and technical expertise of Comcast are more than adequate to continue to construct, operate and maintain its System in the Township; and
- d. Comcast, its officers and directors, have vast experience in all aspects of cable television. In particular, they possess and represent the highest degree of technical and

engineering competence, significant administrative experience and a demonstrated

responsiveness to community needs. In addition to Lawrence, Comcast and its affiliates hold

Certificates of Approval or other authorization to construct, operate and maintain cable television

systems in 340 municipalities in New Jersey, as well as additional communities in 38 other states

and the District of Columbia.

WHEREFORE, Petitioner Comcast of South Jersey, LLC, hereby requests that the

Honorable Board of Public Utilities issue to Petitioner a Renewal Certificate of Approval to

continue to construct, operate and maintain a cable television system in and for the Township of

Lawrence.

Respectfully submitted,

SCARINCI & HOLLENBECK, LLC

Attorneys for Petitioner

Comcast of South Jersey, LLC

By: Dennis Linken Idp
Dennis C. Linken

Dated: February 2, 2017

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### STATE OF NEW JERSEY BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES OFFICE OF CABLE TELEVISION & TELECOMMUNICATIONS

SCARINCI & HOLLENBECK, LLC 1100 Valley Brook Avenue Lyndhurst, New Jersey 07071-0790 (201) 896-4100 Attorneys for Petitioner Comcast of South Jersey, LLC File No. 41000.7000

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF COMCAST OF SOUTH JERSEY, LLC, FOR A RENEWAL CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL TO CONTINUE TO CONSTRUCT, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN A CABLE TELEVISION	)	VERIFICATION  Docket No.
AND MAINTAIN A CABLE TELEVISION SYSTEM IN AND FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF	)	
SYSTEM IN AND FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE, COUNTY OF CUMBERLAND,	)	
STATE OF NEW JERSEY	)	

Fred DeAndrea, hereby certifies as follows:

- I am Director of Government and Regulatory Affairs of Comcast of South Jersey, LLC, Petitioner in the within matter.
- I am familiar with the nature and contents of the Petition to which this
   Verification is annexed.
- The allegations of the Petition are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

I certify that the foregoing statements made by me are true. I am aware that if any of the foregoing statements made by me are willfully false, I may be subject to punishment.

Fred DeAndrea

Dated: February 1, 2017

### ORDINANCE # 395 - 2016

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING RENEWAL OF MUNICIPAL CONSENT TO COMCAST OF SOUTH JERSEY, LLC TO CONSTRUCT, CONNECT, OPERATE AND MAINTAIN A CABLE TELEVISION AND COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM IN THE TOWNSHIP OF LAWRENCE, NEW JERSEY.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF LAWRENCE TOWNSHIP, CUMBERLAND COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, AS FOLLOWS:

### SECTION 1. PURPOSE OF THE ORDINANCE

The municipality hereby grants to Comcast renewal of its non-exclusive Municipal Consent to place in, upon, across, above, over and under highways, streets, alleys, sidewalks, easements, public ways and public places in the municipality, poles, wires, cables, underground conduits, manholes and other television conductors, fixtures, apparatus and equipment as may be necessary for the construction, operation and maintenance in the Municipality of a cable television and communications system.

### SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of this Ordinance, the following terms, phrases, words and their derivations shall have the meaning given herein. Such meaning or definition of terms is supplemental to those definitions of the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") rules and regulations, 47 <u>C.F.R.</u> Subsection 76.1 <u>et seq.</u>, and the Cable Communications Policy Act, 47 <u>U.S.C.</u> Section 521 <u>et seq.</u>, as amended, and the Cable Television Act, <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 48:5A-1 <u>et seq.</u>, and shall in no way be construed to broaden, alter or conflict with the federal and state definitions:

- a. "Township" or "Municipality" is the Township of Lawrence, County of Cumberland, State of New Jersey.
- b. "Company" is the grantee of rights under this Ordinance and is known as Comcast of South Jersey, LLC.
- c. "Act" or "Cable Television Act" is Chapter 186 of the General Laws of New Jersey, and subsequent amendments thereto, N.J.S.A. 48:5A-1, et seq.
- d. "FCC" is the Federal Communications Commission.
- e. "Board" or "BPU" is the Board of Public Utilities, State of New Jersey.
- f. "Office" or "OCTV" is the Office of Cable Television of the Board.