



Ontario Federation of Agriculture

Ontario AgriCentre

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November 28, 2017

Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission
Ottawa, Ontario
Canada, K1A 0N2

**Re: Application number 2017-0586-5; and
Consultation number: 2017-365**

On behalf of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture (OFA), and our 37,000 farm business members, I am writing in support of the application of Pelmorex Weather Networks (Television) Inc. to remain as part of basic television service.

Pelmorex provides a unique and valuable service to Ontario farmers and our rural communities by broadcasting local forecasts to more than 1,000 Canadian communities. For many families and farms across Ontario The Weather Network and MétéoMédia are the only source of up-to-date local or regional weather, including road weather information and weather warnings and watches. This service is vitally important to OFA members whose livelihoods depend on knowing and working with weather conditions.

As the CRTC well knows, broadband internet coverage is not yet readily accessible across our rural communities. Keeping The Weather Network on the basic service provides the only practical means of access. Removing The Weather Network and MétéoMédia from the basic television service will require our member-subscribers to access them through a higher-priced channel package or for a standalone fee. This unfairly taxes rural subscribers.

The Ontario Federation of Agriculture strongly supports the application of Pelmorex Weather Networks (Television) Inc. to remain as part of basic television service. We respectfully urge the CRTC to do the same.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Neil Currie', is written over a large, light-colored scribble.

Neil Currie
General Manager