



October 25, 2017

Mr. Scott Hutton
Secretary General (Acting)
Canadian Radio-television and
Telecommunications Commission
Ottawa Ontario K1A 0N2

Dear Mr. Hutton,

I write to you today on behalf of the Rural Ontario Municipal Association (ROMA) to express our support for renewal of the license of the Weather Network/MétéoMédia for inclusion in basic television services for the next seven years. ROMA is the rural arm of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and advocates in support of strong and effective rural municipal government in the province.

We support the Weather Network's application to remain on the basic television service because of the beneficial and timely information it provides to rural Ontario communities every day. Many of our residents, including those working in the agricultural sector, rely on the Weather Network each morning for up to date information on weather conditions set to impact their daily activities. In many cases, the absence of a local broadcaster makes the Weather Network the only provider offering this important information at a local scale.

It is my understanding that the Weather Network also makes an invaluable contribution to the safety of Canadians by operating the backbone infrastructure of the national emergency alerting system. For these and other reasons, it is our view that the channel provides a public service rather than functioning as regular TV. The Weather Network's license should therefore be renewed for inclusion on basic television services to reflect its contributions and importance to members of our communities in rural Ontario.

Thank you for considering this letter of support. I am happy to respond to any questions you might have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ronald E. Holman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ron Holman
ROMA Chair

CC. regulatory@pelmorex.com