

November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017

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

**Regarding: Application #2017-0596-5 by Pelmorex Weather Networks Inc. to renew the licence of The Weather Network/MétéoMédia – Broadcasting Notice of Consultation CRTC 2017-365**

Since 1971, the Ecology Action Centre has been working at the local, regional, national and more recently, international level to build a healthier and more sustainable world. While all of our work is connected to Nova Scotia, we draw inspiration from many places. We work closely with communities as well as social and natural scientists and make strong use of science in communicating our message.

The Ecology Action Centre strongly supports The Weather Network's application to remain available to all Canadians as part of the basic TV package. Simply put, we cannot imagine the Weather Network being moved to a "paid-for" package as it provides information that needs to be available to everyone.

As an organization that promotes healthy and sustainable enjoyment of nature and the outdoors, the Ecology Action Centre cannot overstate the importance of reliable, local weather information for all Canadians, not just the ones who can afford to pay for cable packages. When 30,000 students across Nova Scotia walk and bike to school during International Walk to School Week, they all need to plan for the weather conditions. In severe weather situations, The Weather Network helps Canadians stay safe.

Weather affects all Canadians, regardless of location or social status and while alternative mediums like The Weather Network App or theweathernetwork.ca exist, it is not something that is available to everyone. That is why it is important to keep essential information like that provided by The Weather Network available at a reasonable cost. If The Weather Network was removed from the basic TV package its essential information would no longer be available to many Canadians who count on it and it would increase the vulnerability of some of the most at risk populations.

In closing, The Weather Network is clearly an essential service that should continue to be available on the basic TV package.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this consultation.

Yours Truly,



Sam Page  
Coastal Adaptation Coordinator, Ecology Action Centre

Cc. [regulatory@pelmorex.com](mailto:regulatory@pelmorex.com)