

October 8, 2010

The Rt Hon Dr Vince Cable, MP,
Secretary of State for Business Innovation and Skills
1 Victoria Street
London SW1H 0ET

Dear Dr Cable

Proposed takeover of BSkyB by News Corporation

We understand that News Corporation is likely to notify the European Commission of, or otherwise formally to advance with, its intention to purchase the equity that it does not already own in BSkyB. Should this occur, we would ask that you refer the matter to Ofcom for further scrutiny of the relevant public interest considerations.

As representatives of a broad cross-section of the United Kingdom's communications and media industries, we believe that the proposed takeover could have serious and far-reaching consequences for media plurality.

We enclose an opinion from regulatory experts at Slaughter & May supporting the case for a referral on plurality grounds.

Yours sincerely

Mark Thompson
BBC

Ian Livingston
BT

Andrew Miller
Guardian Media Group

Kevin Beatty
Associated Newspapers Limited
Daily Mail, Mail on Sunday, Metro

Sly Bailey
Trinity Mirror Plc

Michael Pelosi
Northcliffe Media

David Abraham
Channel 4

Murdoch MacLennan
Telegraph Media Group