

CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS INC /MO/

Form 424B3

July 20, 2005

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Registration Statement No. 333-121561**

PROSPECTUS

\$862,500,000 5.875% Convertible Senior Notes due 2009

**356,404,924 Shares of Class A Common Stock Issuable Upon
Conversion of the 5.875% Convertible Senior Notes due 2009**

This prospectus relates to \$862,500,000 aggregate principal amount of 5.875% Convertible Senior Notes due 2009 of Charter Communications, Inc., and 356,404,924 shares of Class A common stock of Charter Communications, Inc., which are initially issuable upon conversion of the notes, plus an indeterminate number of shares as may become issuable upon conversion as a result of adjustments to the conversion rate.

The convertible senior notes were originally issued and sold by Charter Communications, Inc. to certain initial purchasers in a private placement. The convertible senior notes and shares offered by this prospectus are to be sold for the account of the holders. Holders of the convertible senior notes may convert the convertible senior notes into shares of Charter Communications, Inc. Class A common stock at any time before their maturity or their prior redemption or repurchase by Charter Communications, Inc.

The convertible senior notes are issued only in denominations of \$1,000 and integral multiples of \$1,000. The convertible senior notes are currently designated for trading in the Private Offerings, Resale and Trading through Automated Linkages (PORTAL) Market of the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. Charter Communications, Inc.'s Class A common stock is quoted on the Nasdaq National Market under the symbol CHTR. The last reported sale price of our Class A common stock on the Nasdaq National Market on July 18, 2005 was \$1.33 per share.

The principal terms of the convertible senior notes include the following:

Interest	accrues from November 22, 2004 at the rate of 5.875% per year, payable semi-annually on each May 16 and November 16, commencing on May 16, 2005.
Maturity Date	November 16, 2009
Conversion Rate	413.2231 shares of Class A common stock per each \$1,000 principal amount of notes, subject to adjustment. This is equivalent to an initial conversion price of approximately \$2.42 per share. Upon conversion, we will have the right to deliver, in lieu of our Class A common stock, cash or a combination of cash and Class A common stock.
Ranking	rank equally with any of Charter Communications, Inc.'s existing and future senior unsecured indebtedness, but are effectively subordinated to our secured indebtedness and structurally subordinated to all existing and future indebtedness and other liabilities of our subsidiaries.
Redemption	Following the earlier of (1) the sale of the notes pursuant to an effective registration statement or (2) November 22, 2006, we may redeem the notes in whole or in part at any time at a redemption price equal to 100% of the accreted principal amount of the notes plus any accrued and unpaid interest and liquidated damages, if any, on the notes to but not including the redemption date, if the closing price of our Class A common stock has exceeded a specified percentage of the conversion price for at least 20 trading days in any consecutive 30 trading day period.

Make Whole Provisions

If you convert your notes at any time prior to November 16, 2007, you will receive, in addition to shares of our Class A common stock, or cash in lieu thereof, the remaining portion of a portfolio of U.S. government securities pledged as security in respect of the notes you converted, subject to certain limitations. If you convert notes that have been called for redemption, you will receive an additional redemption make whole amount. In addition, if certain corporate transactions that constitute a change of control occur on or prior to November 16, 2009, we will increase the conversion rate in certain circumstances, unless such transaction constitutes a public acquirer change of control and we elect to modify the conversion into public acquirer common stock, as described in this prospectus.

The convertible senior notes and the shares of Class A common stock offered by this prospectus may be offered in negotiated transactions, ordinary brokerage transactions or otherwise, at negotiated prices or at the market prices prevailing at the time of sale.

See Risk Factors beginning on page 14 of this prospectus to read about important factors you should consider before buying the convertible senior notes or shares of our Class A common stock.

THESE SECURITIES HAVE NOT BEEN APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED BY THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION OR ANY STATE SECURITIES COMMISSION NOR HAS THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION OR ANY STATE SECURITIES COMMISSION PASSED UPON THE ACCURACY OR ADEQUACY OF THIS PROSPECTUS. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

The distribution of this prospectus and the offering and sale of the convertible senior notes or Class A common stock in certain jurisdictions may be restricted by law. Charter Communications, Inc. requires persons into whose possession this prospectus comes to inform themselves about and to observe any such restrictions. This prospectus does not constitute an offer of, or an invitation to purchase, any of the convertible senior notes or shares of Class A common stock in any jurisdiction in which such offer or invitation would be unlawful.

Neither Charter Communications, Inc. nor any of its representatives is making any representation to any offeree or purchaser of the convertible senior notes or shares of Class A common stock regarding the legality of an investment by such offeree or purchaser under appropriate legal investment or similar laws. Each purchaser should consult with his own advisors as to legal, tax, business, financial and related aspects of a purchase of the notes or shares of Class A common stock.

Prospectus dated July 19, 2005.

You should rely only on the information contained in this prospectus. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with information that is different from that contained in this prospectus. We are offering to sell the notes and shares offered hereby only in jurisdictions where offers and sales are permitted. The information in this prospectus is complete and accurate only as of the date of this prospectus, regardless of the time of delivery of this prospectus or of any sale of securities.

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DISCLOSURE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus includes forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act and Section 21E of the Exchange Act, regarding, among other things, our plans, strategies and prospects, both business and financial. Although we believe that our plans, intentions and expectations reflected in or suggested by these forward-looking statements are reasonable, we cannot assure you that we will achieve or realize these plans, intentions or expectations. Forward-looking statements are inherently subject to risks, uncertainties and assumptions. Many of the forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus may be identified by the use of forward-looking words such as believe, expect, anticipate, should, planned, will, may, intend, estimated and potential, and others. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from the forward-looking statements we make in this prospectus are set forth in this prospectus and in other reports or documents that we file from time to time with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC, and include, but are not limited to:

our ability to sustain and grow revenues and cash flows from operating activities by offering video, high-speed data, telephony and other services and to maintain a stable customer base, particularly in the face of increasingly aggressive competition from other service providers;

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the availability of funds to meet interest payment obligations under our debt and to fund our operations and necessary capital expenditures, either through cash flows from operating activities, further borrowings or other sources;

our ability to comply with all covenants in our indentures and credit facilities, any violation of which would result in a violation of the applicable facility or indenture and could trigger a default of other obligations under cross-default provisions;

our ability to pay or refinance debt as it becomes due;

our ability to obtain programming at reasonable prices or to pass programming cost increases on to our customers;

general business conditions, economic uncertainty or slowdown; and

the effects of governmental regulation, including but not limited to local franchise authorities, on our business. All forward-looking statements attributable to us or any person acting on our behalf are expressly qualified in their entirety by this cautionary statement.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

We have filed with the SEC a registration statement on Form S-1 to register the sale of the securities covered by this prospectus. This prospectus, which forms part of that registration statement, does not contain all the information included in the registration statement. For further information about us and the securities described in this prospectus, you should refer to the registration statement and its exhibits.

Our Class A common stock is quoted on the Nasdaq National Market under the symbol CHTR. We file annual, quarterly and special reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. You may read and copy at prescribed rates any document we file at the SEC's public reference room at Room 1200, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the public reference room. Our SEC filings are also available to the public at the SEC's website at www.sec.gov.

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SUMMARY

This summary contains a general discussion of our business, and summary financial information. It does not contain all the information that you should consider before making an investment decision regarding the notes or our Class A common stock. For a more complete understanding of an investment in the notes or our Class A common stock, you should read this entire prospectus. Unless otherwise noted, all business data in this summary is as of March 31, 2005.

Unless otherwise stated, the discussion in this prospectus of our business and operations includes the business and operations of Charter Communications, Inc. and its subsidiaries. Unless the context otherwise requires, the terms we, us and our refer to Charter Communications, Inc. and its direct and indirect subsidiaries on a consolidated basis. The term Charter refers to the issuer, Charter Communications, Inc.

Our Business

We are a broadband communications company operating in the United States, with approximately 6.23 million customers at March 31, 2005. Through our broadband network of coaxial and fiber optic cable, we offer our customers traditional cable video programming (analog and digital, which we refer to as video service), high-speed cable Internet access (which we refer to as high-speed data service), advanced broadband cable services (such as video on demand (VOD), high definition television service, and interactive television) and, in some of our markets, we offer telephone service (which we refer to as telephony). See Business Products and Services for further description of these terms, including customers.

At March 31, 2005, we served approximately 5.98 million analog video customers, of which approximately 2.69 million were also digital video customers. We also served approximately 1.98 million high-speed data customers (including approximately 229,400 who received only high-speed data services). We also provided telephony service to approximately 55,300 customers as of that date.

Our principal executive offices are located at Charter Plaza, 12405 Powerscourt Drive, St. Louis, Missouri 63131. Our telephone number is (314) 965-0555 and we have a website accessible at www.charter.com. The information posted or linked on our website is not part of this prospectus and you should rely solely on the information contained in this prospectus and the related documents to which we refer herein when deciding to make an investment in the notes or our Class A common stock.

Strategy

Our principal financial goal is to maximize our return on invested capital. To do so, we will focus on increasing revenues, growing our customer base, improving customer retention and enhancing customer satisfaction by providing reliable, high-quality service offerings, superior customer service and attractive bundled offerings.

Specifically, in the near term, we are focusing on:

generating improvements in the overall customer experience in such critical areas as service delivery, customer care, and new product offerings;

developing more sophisticated customer management capabilities through investment in our customer care and marketing infrastructure, including targeted marketing capabilities;

executing growth strategies for new services, including digital simulcast, VOD, telephony, and digital video recorder service (DVR);

managing our operating costs by exercising discipline in capital and operational spending; and

identifying opportunities to continue to improve our balance sheet and liquidity.

We have begun an internal operational improvement initiative aimed at helping us gain new customers and retain existing customers, which is focused on customer care, technical operations and sales. We intend to continue efforts to focus management attention on instilling a customer service oriented

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culture throughout the company and to give those areas of our operations priority of resources for staffing levels, training budgets and financial incentives for employee performance in those areas.

We believe that our high-speed data service will continue to provide a substantial portion of our revenue growth in the near future. We also plan to continue to expand our marketing of high-speed data service to the business community, which we believe has shown an increasing interest in high-speed data service and private network services. Additionally, we plan to continue to prepare additional markets for telephony launches in 2005.

We believe we offer our customers an excellent choice of services through a variety of bundled packages, particularly with respect to our digital video and high-speed data services, as well as telephony in certain markets. Our digital platform enables us to offer a significant number and variety of channels, and we offer customers the opportunity to choose among groups of channel offerings, including premium channels, and to combine selected programming with other services such as high-speed data, high definition television (in selected markets) and VOD (in selected markets).

We continue to pursue opportunities to improve our liquidity. Our efforts in this regard resulted in the completion of a number of transactions in 2004, as follows:

the December 2004 sale by our subsidiaries, CCO Holdings, LLC and CCO Holdings Capital Corp., of \$550 million of senior floating rate notes due 2010;

the November 2004 sale of the \$862.5 million of 5.875% convertible senior notes due 2009;

the December 2004 redemption of all of our 5.75% convertible senior notes due 2005 (\$588 million principal amount);

the April 2004 sale of \$1.5 billion of senior second lien notes by our subsidiary, Charter Communications Operating, LLC (Charter Operating), together with the concurrent refinancing of its credit facilities; and

the sale in the first half of 2004 of non-core cable systems for a total of \$735 million, the proceeds of which were used to reduce indebtedness.

Recent Events

Approval and Funding of Litigation Settlement

On June 30, 2005, the Federal District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri entered its final approval of the Stipulation of Settlement, as amended, of certain shareholder class action and derivative lawsuits filed against Charter which are more fully described in Business Legal Proceedings. On July 8, 2005, Charter delivered to the claims administrator its portion of the settlement consideration under the Stipulation in the form of 13.4 million shares of Class A common stock and approximately \$63 million in cash, and Charter has paid \$4.5 million to its insurance carriers to satisfy certain outstanding claims in connection with the settlement. See Business Legal Proceedings.

Issuance of Charter Operating Notes in Exchange for Charter Holdings Notes; Repurchase of Convertible Notes

In June 2005, our subsidiary, Charter Operating, consummated exchange transactions with a small number of institutional holders of Charter Holdings 8.25% senior notes due 2007 pursuant to which Charter Operating issued, in private placements, approximately \$62 million principal amount of new notes with terms identical to Charter Operating's 8.375% senior second lien notes due 2014 in exchange for approximately \$62 million of the Charter Holdings 8.25% senior notes due 2007. Since March 31, 2005, we repurchased, in private transactions from a small number of institutional holders, a total of \$97 million principal amount of our 4.75% convertible senior notes due 2006 leaving \$25 million principal amount outstanding.

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Principal Management Changes

On January 17, 2005, Robert P. May was appointed as Interim President and Chief Executive Officer of Charter, replacing Carl E. Vogel who, effective on the same date, resigned his position as President, Chief Executive Officer, and a member of the board of directors of Charter and each of Charter's subsidiaries for which Mr. Vogel served as a director and officer. Additionally, Mr. May was appointed to the Executive Committee of Charter's board of directors and will continue to serve on the board's Strategic Planning Committee. He was also appointed as an officer and director of Charter's subsidiaries for which Mr. Vogel was a director and officer.

Charter's board of directors has formed an Executive Search Committee to oversee Charter's search for a permanent President and Chief Executive Officer.

In April 2005, Michael J. Lovett was appointed to the position of Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer. Prior to that appointment, Mr. Lovett had been serving as Charter's Executive Vice President, Operations and Customer Care. In April 2005, we also named Paul E. Martin Interim Chief Financial Officer. Mr. Martin had been serving as co-Interim Chief Financial Officer along with Derek Chang, our former Executive Vice President of Finance and Strategy. Mr. Chang resigned all positions with Charter effective April 15, 2005. Curtis S. Shaw, former Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary, also resigned effective April 15, 2005.

Sale of 5.875% Convertible Senior Notes and Redemption of 5.75% Convertible Senior Notes

On November 22, 2004, we issued and sold \$862.5 million total principal amount of 5.875% convertible senior notes due 2009, which are convertible into shares of our Class A common stock, par value \$.001 per share, at a rate of 413.2231 shares per \$1,000 principal amount of notes (or approximately \$2.42 per share), subject to adjustment in certain circumstances. At the time of the issuance of the notes, we agreed to file the registration statement containing this prospectus for resale of the notes and shares of Class A common stock issuable upon conversion of the notes by the holders thereof. On December 23, 2004, we used a portion of the proceeds from the sale of the notes to redeem all of our outstanding 5.75% convertible senior notes due 2005 (total principal amount of \$588 million). We also used a portion of the proceeds from the sale of the notes to purchase certain U.S. government securities which were pledged as security for the notes and which we expect to use to fund the first six interest payments on the notes.

In connection with the initial sale of the notes, we filed a registration statement with the Securities and Exchange Commission that can be used by Citigroup Global Markets Inc. to sell up to 150 million shares of our Class A common stock that we will loan to an affiliate of Citigroup Global Markets Inc. pursuant to a share lending agreement. That registration statement was declared effective on July 18, 2005.

For additional terms of the notes and the arrangements governing the loan of shares of our Class A common stock, see "Registered Borrow Facility" and "Description of Notes."

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Organizational Structure

The chart below sets forth the organizational structure of Charter and its principal direct and indirect subsidiaries. The equity ownership, voting percentages and indebtedness amounts shown below are approximations as of March 31, 2005 on the pro forma basis described in Unaudited Pro Forma Consolidated Financial Statements (including giving effect to the issuance of the shares pursuant to the share lending agreement) and do not give effect to any exercise, conversion or exchange of then outstanding options, preferred stock, convertible notes and other convertible or exchangeable securities.

- (1) Charter acts as the sole manager of Charter Holdco and its direct and indirect limited liability company subsidiaries. Charter's certificate of incorporation requires that its principal assets be securities of Charter Holdco, the terms of which mirror the terms of securities issued by Charter. See Description of Capital Stock and Membership Units. Since March 31, 2005 Charter repurchased \$97 million in principal amount of the convertible notes then outstanding.
- (2) These membership units are held by Charter Investment, Inc. and Vulcan Cable III Inc., each of which is 100% owned by Paul G. Allen, our Chairman and controlling shareholder. They are exchangeable at any time on a one-for-one basis for shares of Charter Class A common stock.
- (3) The percentages shown in this table reflect the issuance of the 150 million shares of Class A common stock by Charter pursuant to the share lending agreement and the corresponding issuance of an equal number of mirror membership units by Charter Holdco to Charter. However, for accounting purposes, Charter's common equity interest in Charter Holdco will remain at 47%, and Paul G. Allen's ownership of Charter Holdco will remain at 53%. These percentages exclude the 150 million mirror membership units issued to Charter due to the required return of the issued mirror units upon return of the shares pursuant to the share lending agreement. See Registered Borrow Facility.
- (4) In June 2005, Charter Operating issued approximately \$62 million of additional notes in exchange for \$62 million of Charter Holdings senior notes. See Recent Events.
- (5) Represents 100% of the preferred membership interests in CC VIII, LLC, a subsidiary of CC V Holdings, LLC. An issue has arisen regarding the ultimate ownership of such CC VIII, LLC membership interests following Mr. Allen's acquisition of those interests on June 6, 2003. See Certain Relationships and Related Transactions Transactions Arising out of Our Organizational Structure and Mr. Allen's Investment in Charter Communications, Inc. and Its Subsidiaries Equity Put Rights CC VIII.

Table of Contents**The Notes**

Issuer	Charter Communications, Inc. (Charter)
Notes Offered	\$862,500,000 original principal amount of 5.875% Convertible Senior Notes due 2009.
Maturity Date	November 16, 2009.
Interest	5.875% per annum on the accreted principal amount, payable semi-annually in arrears on May 16 and November 16 of each year, commencing May 16, 2005. If we elect to accrete the principal amount of the notes to pay any liquidated damages we owe, we will be entitled to defer any interest, which we refer to as the deferred interest, that accrues with respect to the excess of the accreted principal amount over the original principal amount until May 16, 2008, or any earlier repurchase, redemption or acceleration of the notes. We will not pay any interest on such deferred interest.
Security	Our subsidiary, Charter Communications Holding Company, LLC (Charter Holdco), has purchased and pledged to us as security for an intercompany note, and we have repledged to the trustee under the indenture as security for the benefit of the holders of the notes, approximately \$144 million of U.S. government securities, which we refer to as the Pledged Securities. We believe that the total amount of the Pledged Securities will be sufficient, upon receipt of scheduled payments thereon, to provide for the payment in full of the first six scheduled interest payments due on the original principal amount of the notes, but not any liquidated damages we may owe or any deferred interest in respect of the accretion of the principal amount of the notes. The notes will not otherwise be secured. See Description of the Notes Security. Holders who convert their notes prior to November 16, 2007 will receive the cash proceeds from the liquidation of a portion of the Pledged Securities, as described below in Interest Make Whole Upon Conversion.
Ranking	The notes will be unsecured (except to the extent described above under Security) and unsubordinated obligations and will rank, in right of payment, the same as all of Charter s existing and future senior unsecured indebtedness. The notes will rank senior in right of payment to all of Charter s subordinated indebtedness and will be effectively subordinated to any of Charter s secured indebtedness and structurally subordinated to indebtedness and other liabilities of our subsidiaries. As of March 31, 2005, Charter had no secured indebtedness and our subsidiaries had total indebtedness and other liabilities of \$20.5 billion, excluding intercompany obligations.
Conversion Rights	<p>Holders may convert their notes at the conversion rate at any time prior to the close of business on the business day prior to the maturity date.</p> <p>The initial conversion rate will be 413.2231 shares of our Class A common stock, par value \$.001 per share, per \$1,000 original principal amount of notes. This represents an initial</p>

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conversion price of approximately \$2.42 per share of our Class A common stock. We will increase the conversion rate in the same proportion that the principal amount of the notes increases if we elect to accrete the principal amount of the notes to pay certain liquidated damages instead of paying them in cash. In addition, if certain corporate transactions that constitute a change of control occur on or prior to the maturity date, we will increase the conversion rate in certain circumstances, unless such transaction constitutes a public acquirer change of control and we elect to satisfy our conversion obligation with public acquirer common stock. See

Description of Notes Conversion Rights Make Whole Amount and Public Acquirer Change of Control.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, no holder of notes will be entitled to receive shares of our Class A common stock upon conversion to the extent, but only to the extent, that such receipt would cause such holder to become, directly or indirectly, a beneficial owner of more than the specified percentage of the shares of Class A common stock outstanding at such time. With respect to any conversion prior to November 16, 2008, the specified percentage will be 4.9%, and with respect to any conversion thereafter, the specified percentage will be 9.9%. See Description of Notes Conversion Rights Limitation on Beneficial Ownership.

Upon conversion, we will have the right to deliver, in lieu of shares of our Class A common stock, cash or a combination of cash and our Class A common stock. If we elect to pay holders cash upon conversion, such payment will be based on the average of the sale prices of our Class A common stock over the 20 trading day period beginning on the third trading day immediately following the conversion date of the notes, which we refer to as the average price.

As described in this prospectus, the conversion rate may be adjusted upon the occurrence of certain events, including for any cash dividend on our Class A common stock, but will not be adjusted for accrued and unpaid interest. By delivering to the holder shares of our Class A common stock, and in certain circumstances cash, we will satisfy our obligations with respect to the notes subject to the conversion, subject to our obligations described under Description of Notes Conversion Rights Interest Make Whole Upon Conversion below. Except to the extent we are required to pay any Early Conversion Make Whole Amount or Redemption Make Whole Amount, upon conversion of a note, accrued and unpaid interest will be paid or deemed to be paid in full, rather than canceled, extinguished or forfeited.

The notes called for redemption may be surrendered for conversion prior to the close of business on the business day immediately preceding the redemption date.

Interest Make Whole Upon Conversion

Holders who convert their notes prior to November 16, 2007 will receive, in addition to a number of shares of our Class A

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common stock calculated at the conversion rate for the accreted principal amount of notes, or cash in lieu thereof, the cash proceeds of the sale by the trustee of the Pledged Securities remaining with respect to the notes being converted, which we refer to as the Early Conversion Make Whole Amount, subject to the limitation described under Description of Notes Conversion Rights Interest Make Whole Upon Conversion . The percentage of the remaining Pledged Securities to be sold will be determined based on the aggregate original principal amount of notes being converted as a percentage of the total original principal amount of notes then outstanding. The trustee will liquidate the Pledged Securities to be released, rounded down to the nearest whole multiple of the minimum denomination of such Pledged Securities, and deliver the cash value thereof to the converting holder. The Early Conversion Make Whole Amount will not compensate a converting holder for interest such holder would have earned in respect of any increase in the principal amount of the notes if we elect to accrete such principal amount to pay any liquidated damages we may owe.

Holders who convert notes that have been called for redemption will receive, in addition to the Early Conversion Make Whole Amount, the amount of any deferred interest and the present value of the interest on the notes converted that would have been payable for the period from and including November 16, 2007, or if later, the redemption date, to but excluding November 16, 2009, which we refer to as the Redemption Make Whole Amount. The Redemption Make Whole Amount will be calculated by discounting the amount of such interest on a semi-annual basis using a discount rate equal to 3.0% plus the published U.S. Treasury rate for the maturity most closely approximating the period from and including the redemption date to but excluding November 16, 2009. We may pay the Redemption Make Whole Amount in cash or in shares of our Class A common stock, with the number of such shares determined based on the average of the sale prices of our Class A common stock over the 10 trading days immediately preceding the applicable conversion date. If we elect to pay the Redemption Make Whole Amount in shares of our Class A common stock, the number of shares we deliver, together with the shares deliverable upon conversion, will not exceed 462 per \$1,000 original principal amount of notes, subject to the anti-dilution adjustments, and we must deliver cash with respect to the remainder of the Redemption Make Whole Amount, if any.

Exchange in Lieu of Conversion Unless we have called the relevant notes for redemption, we may, in lieu of delivering shares of our Class A common stock, or cash in lieu thereof, upon conversion, direct the conversion agent to surrender notes a holder has tendered for conversion to a financial institution designated by us for exchange in lieu of conversion. In order to accept any such notes, the designated institution must agree to deliver, in exchange for such notes, a number of shares of our Class A common stock calculated using the applicable conversion rate for the accreted principal amount

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of the notes, plus cash for any fractional shares, or, at its option, cash or a combination of cash and shares of our Class A common stock in lieu thereof, calculated based on the average price. If the designated institution accepts any such notes, it will deliver the appropriate number of shares of our Class A common stock (and cash, if any), or cash in lieu thereof, to the conversion agent and the conversion agent will deliver those shares or cash to the holder. Such designated institution will also deliver cash equal to any Early Conversion Make Whole Amount we would owe such holder if we had paid it the conversion value of its notes. Any notes exchanged by the designated institution will remain outstanding. If the designated institution agrees to accept any notes for exchange but does not timely deliver the related consideration, we will, as promptly as practical thereafter, but not later than the third business day following (1) the conversion date or (2) if the designated institution elects to deliver cash or a combination of cash and shares of our Class A common stock, the determination of the average price, convert the notes and deliver shares of our Class A common stock, as described under

Description of Notes Conversion Rights General, or, at our option cash in lieu thereof based on the average price, along with any applicable Early Conversion Make Whole Amount. See Description of Notes Exchange in Lieu of Conversion.

Fundamental Change

Upon a fundamental change, each holder of the notes may require us to repurchase some or all of its notes at a purchase price equal to 100% of the accreted principal amount of the notes, plus any accrued and unpaid interest, including any liquidated damages and deferred interest. See Description of Notes Fundamental Change Requires Us to Repurchase Notes at the Option of the Holder.

Make Whole Amount and Public Acquirer Change of Control

If certain transactions that constitute a change of control occur on or prior to the maturity date, under certain circumstances, we will increase the conversion rate by a number of additional shares for any conversion of notes in connection with such transactions, as described under Description of Notes Conversion Rights Make Whole Amount and Public Acquirer Change of Control. The number of additional shares will be determined based on the date such transaction becomes effective and the price paid per share of our Class A common stock in such transaction. However, if such transaction constitutes a public acquirer change of control, in lieu of increasing the conversion rate, we may elect to adjust our conversion obligation such that upon conversion of the notes, we will deliver acquirer common stock or cash in lieu thereof as described under Description of Notes Conversion Rights Make Whole Amount and Public Acquirer Change of Control.

Redemption

Following the earlier of (1) the sale of any notes pursuant to an effective registration statement or (2) November 22, 2006, we may redeem the notes (or, in the case of clause (1) above, any such notes that have been sold pursuant to an effective

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registration statement) in whole or in part for cash at any time at a redemption price equal to 100% of the accreted principal amount of the notes plus any accrued and unpaid interest, deferred interest and liquidated damages, if any, on the notes to but not including the redemption date, if the closing price of our Class A common stock has exceeded, for at least 20 trading days in any consecutive 30 trading day period, 180% of the conversion price if such 30 day trading period is prior to November 16, 2007 and 150% if such 30 trading day period begins thereafter. The conversion price as of any day will equal the accreted principal amount of \$1,000 original principal amount of notes divided by the conversion rate in effect on such day.

Sinking Fund

None.

Registered Borrow Facility

We filed and agreed to use our reasonable best efforts to cause to become effective within 130 calendar days after the issue date of the notes, a registration statement with the Securities and Exchange Commission covering our Class A common stock that can be used by Citigroup Global Markets Inc., one of the initial purchasers of the notes, which we refer to as Citigroup, to sell up to 150 million shares that we will loan to an affiliate of Citigroup.

The registration statement relating to the registered borrow facility was declared effective on July 18, 2005, after the required deadline of April 1, 2005. As a result, we incurred liquidated damages during the period from April 2, 2005 until July 17, 2005 at a rate per month equal to 0.25% of the accreted principal amount of the notes for the first 60 days of such failure and 0.50% of the accreted principal amount of the notes thereafter, in each case with such damages accruing daily and paid monthly. All such liquidated damages have been or will be paid in cash.

We have been advised by Citigroup that it intends to use the short sales of our Class A common stock registered pursuant to such registration statement to facilitate transactions by which investors in the notes will hedge their investment in the notes. We will not receive any of the proceeds from such short sales of Class A common stock, but we will receive a loan fee of \$.001 for each share that we lend pursuant to the share lending agreement.

United States Federal Income Tax Considerations

Under the indenture governing the notes, we have agreed, and by acceptance of a beneficial interest in the notes each holder of a note is deemed to have agreed, to treat the notes for United States federal income tax purposes as debt instruments that are subject to the U.S. Treasury regulations governing contingent payment debt instruments. For United States federal income tax

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purposes, interest will accrue from the issue date of the notes at a constant rate of 15% per year (subject to certain adjustments), compounded semi-annually, which represents the yield on our comparable nonconvertible, fixed-rate debt instruments with terms and conditions otherwise similar to the notes. U.S. Holders (as defined herein) will be required to include interest in income as it accrues regardless of their method of tax accounting. The rate at which interest accrues for United States federal income tax purposes generally will exceed the cash payments of interest.

U.S. Holders will recognize gain or loss on the sale, exchange, conversion, redemption or repurchase of a note in an amount equal to the difference between the amount realized, including the fair market value of any common stock received upon conversion, and their adjusted tax basis in the note. Any gain recognized by a U.S. Holder on the sale, exchange, conversion, redemption or repurchase of a note generally will be ordinary interest income; any loss will be ordinary loss to the extent of the interest previously included in income, and, thereafter, capital loss. See United States Federal Income Tax Considerations.

Use of Proceeds	We will not receive any proceeds from the sales of notes or shares offered hereby by the selling security holders.
Events of Default	Customary events of default, including a default caused by the failure to pay interest or principal at maturity and the acceleration of indebtedness for borrowed money aggregating \$100 million or more.
Trading	The notes are designated as eligible for trading in the PORTAL Market. Our Class A common stock is quoted on the Nasdaq National Market under the symbol CHTR.

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Summary Consolidated Financial Data

Charter is a holding company whose principal assets are a controlling common equity interest in Charter Communications Holding Company, LLC and mirror notes that are payable by Charter Communications Holding Company, LLC to Charter which have the same principal amount and terms as those of Charter's convertible senior notes. Charter Communications Holding Company, LLC is a holding company whose primary assets are equity interests in our cable operating subsidiaries and intercompany loan receivables. Charter consolidates Charter Communications Holding Company, LLC on the basis of voting control. Charter Communications Holding Company, LLC's limited liability agreement provides that so long as Charter's Class B common stock retains its special voting rights, Charter will maintain 100% voting interest in Charter Communications Holding Company, LLC. Voting control gives Charter full authority and control over the operations of Charter Communications Holding Company, LLC.

The following table presents summary financial and other data for Charter and its subsidiaries and has been derived from the audited consolidated financial statements of Charter and its subsidiaries for the three years ended December 31, 2004 and the unaudited consolidated financial statements of Charter and its subsidiaries for the three months ended March 31, 2005 and 2004. The consolidated financial statements of Charter and its subsidiaries for the years ended December 31, 2002 to 2004 have been audited by KPMG LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm. The pro forma data set forth below represent our unaudited pro forma consolidated financial statements after giving effect to the following transactions as if they occurred on January 1 of the respective period for the statement of operations data and other financial data and as of the last day of the respective period for the operating data and balance sheet data:

- (1) the disposition of certain assets in March and April 2004 and the use of proceeds in each case to pay down credit facilities;
- (2) the issuance and sale of the CCO Holdings senior floating rate notes in December 2004 and the Charter Operating senior second lien notes in April 2004;
- (3) an increase in amounts outstanding under the Charter Operating credit facilities in April 2004 and the use of such funds, together with the proceeds from the sale of the Charter Operating senior second lien notes, to refinance amounts outstanding under the credit facilities of our subsidiaries, CC VI Operating, CC VIII Operating and Falcon;
- (4) the repayment of \$530 million of borrowings under the Charter Operating revolving credit facility with net proceeds from the issuance and sale of the CCO Holdings senior floating rate notes in December 2004, which were included in our cash balance at December 31, 2004;
- (5) the redemption of all of CC V Holdings' outstanding 11.875% senior discount notes due 2008 with cash on hand;
- (6) the establishment of a registered borrow facility for the issuance of up to 150 million shares of our Class A common stock pursuant to a share lending agreement the sole effect of which is to increase common shares issued and outstanding. See Registered Borrow Facility; and
- (7) the issuance and sale of \$863 million of 5.875% convertible senior notes in November 2004 with proceeds used for (i) the purchase of certain U.S. government securities pledged as security for the 5.875% convertible senior notes (and which we expect to use to fund the first six interest payments thereon), (ii) redemption of the outstanding 5.75% convertible senior notes due 2005 and (iii) general corporate purposes.

The following information should be read in conjunction with Selected Historical Consolidated Financial Data, Capitalization, Unaudited Pro Forma Consolidated Financial Statements, Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, Registered Borrow Facility and the historical consolidated financial

statements and related notes included elsewhere in this prospectus.

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	Year Ended December 31,				Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2002 Actual	2003 Actual	2004 Actual	2004 Pro Forma(a)	2004 Pro Forma(a)	2005 Actual
(Dollars in millions, except per share, share and customer data)						
Statement of Operations Data:						
Revenues:						
Video	\$ 3,420	\$ 3,461	\$ 3,373	\$ 3,352	\$ 828	\$ 842
High-speed data	337	556	741	738	165	215
Advertising sales	302	263	289	288	58	64
Commercial	161	204	238	236	54	65
Other	346	335	336	334	80	85
Total revenues	4,566	4,819	4,977	4,948(b)	1,185	1,271
Costs and Expenses:						
Operating (excluding depreciation and amortization)	1,807	1,952	2,080	2,068	500	559
Selling, general and administrative	963	940	971	967	235	237
Depreciation and amortization	1,436	1,453	1,495	1,489	364	381
Impairment of franchises	4,638		2,433	2,433		
Asset impairment charges						31
(Gain) loss on sale of assets, net	3	5	(86)	19	(1)	4
Option compensation expense (income), net	5	4	31	31	14	4

Special charges, net	36	21	104	104	10	4
Unfavorable contracts and other settlements		(72)	(5)	(5)		
Total costs and expenses	8,888	4,303	7,023	7,106	1,122	1,220
Income (loss) from operations	(4,322)	516	(2,046)	(2,158)	63	51
Interest expense, net	(1,503)	(1,557)	(1,670)	(1,709)	(422)	(420)
Gain (loss) on derivative instruments and hedging activities, net	(115)	65	69	69	(7)	27
Loss on debt to equity conversions			(23)	(23)	(8)	
Gain (loss) on extinguishment of debt		267	(31)			7
Other, net	(4)	(16)	3	3	(2)	1
Loss before minority interest, income taxes and cumulative effect of accounting change	(5,944)	(725)	(3,698)	(3,818)	(376)	(334)
Minority interest(c)	3,176	377	19	19	(4)	(3)
Loss before income taxes and cumulative effect of accounting change	(2,768)	(348)	(3,679)	(3,799)	(380)	(337)
Income tax benefit (expense)	460	110	103	117	(40)	(15)

Loss before cumulative effect of accounting change	\$	(2,308)	\$	(238)	\$	(3,576)	\$	(3,682)	\$	(420)	\$	(352)
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Loss per common share, basic and diluted(d)	\$	(7.85)	\$	(0.82)	\$	(11.92)	\$	(12.27)	\$	(1.43)	\$	(1.16)
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Weighted-average common shares outstanding, basic and diluted	294,440,261	294,597,519	300,291,877	300,291,877	295,106,077	303,308,880
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Other Financial Data:

Capital expenditures	\$	2,167	\$	854	\$	924	\$	922	\$	188	\$	211
Deficiencies of earnings to cover fixed charges(e)	\$	5,944	\$	725	\$	3,698	\$	3,818	\$	376	\$	334

December 31,

March 31,

**2003
Actual**

**2003
Pro Forma**

**2004
Actual**

**2004
Actual**

**2005
Actual**

Operating Data (end of period)(f):

Analog video customers	6,431,300	6,200,500	5,991,500	6,192,000	5,984,800
Digital video customers	2,671,900	2,588,600	2,674,700	2,657,400	2,694,600
Residential high-speed data customers	1,565,600	1,527,800	1,884,400	1,653,000	1,978,400
Telephony customers	24,900	24,900	45,400	26,300	55,300

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	Actual As of March 31, 2005
	(Dollars in millions)
Balance Sheet Data (end of period):	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 32
Total assets	16,794
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	1,256
Long-term debt	18,929
Other long-term liabilities	635
Minority interest(c)	656
Shareholders deficit	(4,751)

(a) Actual revenues exceeded pro forma revenues for the year ended December 31, 2004 and the three months ended March 31, 2004 by \$29 million and \$29 million, respectively. Pro forma loss before cumulative effect of accounting change, net of tax exceeded actual loss before cumulative effect of accounting change, net of tax by \$106 million and \$127 million for the year ended December 31, 2004 and the three months ended March 31, 2004, respectively. The unaudited pro forma financial information required allocation of certain revenues and expenses and such information has been presented for comparative purposes and is not intended (a) to provide any indication of what our actual financial position or results of operations would have been had the transactions described above been completed on the dates indicated or (b) to project our results of operations for any future date.

(b) Pro forma 2004 revenue by quarter is as follows:

	2004 Pro Forma Revenue
	(In millions)
1st Quarter	\$ 1,185
2nd Quarter	1,239
3rd Quarter	1,248
4th Quarter	1,276
Total pro forma revenue	\$ 4,948

(c) Minority interest represents the percentage of Charter Communications Holding Company, LLC not owned by Charter, plus preferred membership interests in CC VIII, LLC, an indirect subsidiary of Charter Holdco. Paul G. Allen indirectly holds the preferred membership units in CC VIII, LLC as a result of the exercise of a put right originally granted in connection with the Bresnan transaction in 2000. An issue has arisen regarding the ultimate ownership of the CC VIII, LLC membership interests following the consummation of the Bresnan put transaction on June 6, 2003. See Certain Relationships and Related Transactions Transactions Arising Out of Our Organizational Structure and Mr. Allen's Investment in Charter and Its Subsidiaries Equity Put Rights CC VIII. Effective January 1, 2005, Charter ceased recognizing minority interest in earnings or losses of CC VIII, LLC for

financial reporting purposes until such time as the resolution of the issue is determinable or certain other events occur. Reported losses allocated to minority interest on the statement of operations are limited to the extent of any remaining minority interest on the balance sheet related to Charter Communications Holding Company, LLC. Because minority interest in Charter Communications Holding Company, LLC was substantially eliminated at December 31, 2003, beginning in 2004, Charter absorbs substantially all losses before income taxes that otherwise would have been allocated to minority interest. This resulted in an approximate additional \$2.0 billion of loss before cumulative effect of accounting change for the year ended December 31, 2004. Under our existing capital structure, Charter will absorb substantially all future losses.

- (d) Loss per common share, basic and diluted, assumes none of the membership units of Charter Communications Holding Company, LLC are exchanged for Charter common stock and none of the outstanding options to purchase membership units of Charter Communications Holding Company, LLC that are automatically exchanged for Charter common stock are exercised. Basic loss per share equals loss before cumulative effect of accounting change less dividends on preferred stock-redeemable divided by weighted average shares outstanding. If the membership units were exchanged or options exercised, the effects would be antidilutive. Therefore, basic and diluted loss per common share is the same.
- (e) Earnings include net loss plus fixed charges. Fixed charges consist of interest expense and an estimated interest component of rent expense.
- (f) See Business Products and Services for definitions of the terms contained in this section.

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RISK FACTORS

An investment in the notes or our Class A common stock entails the following risks. You should carefully consider these risk factors, as well as the other information contained in this prospectus, before making a decision to invest in the notes or our Class A common stock.

Risks Related to Significant Indebtedness of Us and Our Subsidiaries

We and our subsidiaries have a significant amount of existing debt and may incur substantial additional debt in the future, which could adversely affect our financial health and our ability to react to changes in our business.

Charter and its subsidiaries have a significant amount of debt and may (subject to applicable restrictions in their debt instruments) incur additional debt in the future. As of March 31, 2005, our total debt was approximately \$18.9 billion, and our shareholders' deficit was approximately \$4.8 billion. The deficiency of earnings to cover fixed charges for the three month period ended March 31, 2005 was approximately \$334 million. In 2006 and beyond, significant amounts will become due under our remaining long-term debt obligations. For instance, in 2009 \$5.0 billion of our debt matures. The maturities of these obligations are set forth in Description of Certain Indebtedness.

We believe that as a result of our significant levels of debt and operating performance, our access to the debt markets could be limited. If our business does not generate sufficient cash flow from operating activities, and sufficient funds are not available to us from borrowings under our credit facilities or from other sources, we may not be able to repay our debt, fund our other liquidity and capital needs, grow our business or respond to competitive challenges. Further, if we are unable to repay or refinance our debt, as it becomes due, we could be forced to restructure our obligations or seek protection under the bankruptcy laws. If we were to raise capital through the issuance of additional equity or to engage in a recapitalization or other similar transaction, our shareholders could suffer significant dilution and our noteholders might not receive principal and interest payments to which they are contractually entitled on a timely basis or at all.

Our significant amount of debt could have other important consequences to you. For example, the debt will or could:

- require us to dedicate a significant portion of our cash flow from operating activities to payments on our debt, which will reduce our funds available for working capital, capital expenditures and other general corporate expenses;

- limit our flexibility in planning for, or reacting to, changes in our business, the cable and telecommunications industries and the economy at large;

- place us at a disadvantage as compared to our competitors that have proportionately less debt;

- make us vulnerable to interest rate increases, because a significant amount of our borrowings are, and will continue to be, at variable rates of interest;

- expose us to increased interest expense as we refinance our existing lower interest rate instruments;

- adversely affect our relationship with customers and suppliers;

- limit our ability to borrow additional funds in the future, due to applicable financial and restrictive covenants in our debt; and

- make it more difficult for us to satisfy our obligations to the holders of our notes and for our subsidiaries to satisfy their obligations to their lenders under their credit facilities and to their bondholders.

Due to our significant amount of debt, we did not pay dividends on our preferred stock at March 31, and June 30, 2005, because our Board of Directors was unable to conclude with sufficient certainty that we had surplus under

Delaware law with which to pay such a dividend.

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A default by one of our subsidiaries under its debt obligations could result in the acceleration of those obligations, the obligations of our other subsidiaries and our obligations under the notes and our other convertible notes. We may not have the ability to fund our obligations under the notes in the event of such a default. If current debt levels increase, the related risks that we and you now face will intensify.

Because of our holding company structure, the notes are structurally subordinated in right of payment to all liabilities of our subsidiaries. Restrictions in our subsidiaries' debt instruments limit their ability to provide funds to us.

Our principal assets are our equity interests in Charter Holdco (which in turn holds indirect equity interests in our operating subsidiaries) and certain mirror debt instruments issued to us by Charter Holdco, the terms of which match our existing outstanding indebtedness. We have no operating assets. Accordingly, except for those interest payments to be funded by the Pledged Securities, we will need to receive distributions from our subsidiaries or raise additional financing in order to service our debt. Our subsidiaries are separate and distinct legal entities and are not obligated to make funds available to us in the form of loans, distributions or otherwise for payment of the notes or our existing senior convertible notes or other obligations.

Our subsidiaries' ability to make distributions to us are restricted by the terms of their credit facilities and indentures. Our indirect subsidiaries include the borrowers and guarantors under the Charter Operating credit facilities. Some of our subsidiaries are also obligors under several series of senior high-yield notes issued by them. The notes are structurally subordinated in right of payment to indebtedness and other liabilities of our subsidiaries, the total principal amount of which was \$20.5 billion as of March 31, 2005 excluding intercompany obligations.

The indentures governing the senior notes and senior discount notes of Charter Communications Holdings, LLC (Charter Holdings) permit Charter Holdings to make distributions to Charter Holdco for payment of interest on the notes and our existing convertible senior notes, only if, after giving effect to the distribution, Charter Holdings can incur additional debt under the leverage ratio of 8.75 to 1.0, there is no default under its indentures and other specified tests are met. For the quarter ended March 31, 2005, there was no default under Charter Holdings' indentures and other specified tests were met. However, Charter Holdings did not meet the leverage ratio of 8.75 to 1.0 based on March 31, 2005 financial results. As a result, distributions from Charter Holdings to Charter or Charter Holdco are currently restricted and will continue to be restricted until that test is met.

During this restriction period, the indentures governing the Charter Holdings notes permit Charter Holdings and its subsidiaries to make specified investments in Charter Holdco or Charter, up to an amount determined by a formula, as long as there is no default under the indentures. As of March 31, 2005, Charter Holdco was owed \$161 million in intercompany loans from its subsidiaries, which amount was available to pay principal and interest on Charter's convertible senior notes. In addition, Charter has \$145 million of securities pledged as security for the first six interest payments on Charter's 5.875% convertible senior notes.

In the event of bankruptcy, liquidation or dissolution of one or more of our subsidiaries, that subsidiary's assets would first be applied to satisfy its own obligations, then to any obligations owed by its parent companies that are our subsidiaries, and following such payments, such subsidiary may not have sufficient assets remaining to make payments to us as an equity holder or otherwise. In that event:

the lenders under our subsidiaries' credit facilities and the holders of their other debt instruments will have the right to be paid before us from any of our subsidiaries' assets; and

although Mr. Allen's indirect ownership interest in CC VIII, LLC is currently the subject of a dispute, Paul G. Allen, as an indirect holder of preferred membership interests in our subsidiary, CC VIII, LLC, may have a claim on a portion of its assets that would reduce the amounts available for repayment to holders of the notes. See Risk Factors - Risks Related to Our Business - Our dispute with Paul G. Allen concerning the ownership of an interest in CC VIII, LLC could adversely impact our ability to repay our debt, the value of our common stock and our ability to obtain future financing.

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In addition, the notes are unsecured and will rank equally with all other existing and future senior unsecured indebtedness of Charter and will be effectively subordinated in right of payment to all existing secured debt and any future secured debt we may incur to the extent of the value of the assets securing such debt. Our subsidiaries' credit facilities are secured by pledges of equity interests and intercompany notes. See Description of Certain Indebtedness for a summary of our outstanding indebtedness and a description of our credit facilities and other indebtedness.

The agreements and instruments governing our debt and the debt of our subsidiaries contain restrictions and limitations that could significantly affect our ability to operate our business and adversely affect you, as a shareholder or holder of the notes.

The Charter Operating credit facilities and the indentures governing our and our subsidiaries' other debt contain a number of significant covenants that could adversely affect our ability to operate our business, and therefore could adversely affect our results of operations, our ability to repay the notes and the price of our Class A common stock. These covenants restrict our and our subsidiaries' ability to:

incur additional debt;

repurchase or redeem equity interests and debt;

issue equity;

make certain investments or acquisitions;

pay dividends or make other distributions;

receive distributions from our subsidiaries;

dispose of assets or merge;

enter into related party transactions;

grant liens; and

pledge assets.

Furthermore, the Charter Operating credit facilities require us to, among other things, maintain specified financial ratios, meet specified financial tests and provide audited financial statements with an unqualified opinion from our independent auditors. See Description of Certain Indebtedness for details on our debt covenants. Charter Operating's ability to comply with these provisions may be affected by events beyond our control.

The breach of any covenants or obligations in the foregoing indentures or credit facilities, not otherwise waived or amended, could result in a default under the applicable debt agreement or instrument and could trigger acceleration of the related debt, which in turn could trigger defaults under other agreements governing our long-term indebtedness. See Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations—Liquidity and Capital Resources. In addition, the secured lenders under the Charter Operating credit facilities and the holders of the Charter Operating senior second-lien notes could foreclose on their collateral, which includes equity interests in our subsidiaries, and exercise other rights of secured creditors. Any default under those credit facilities, the indenture governing the notes or the indentures governing our other convertible notes or our subsidiaries' debt could adversely affect our growth, our financial condition and our results of operations and our ability to make payments on the notes, our other notes and Charter Operating's credit facilities and other debt of our subsidiaries. See Description of Certain Indebtedness.

We may not generate sufficient cash flow to fund our capital expenditures, ongoing operations and debt obligations, including our payment obligations under the notes.

Our ability to service our debt (including payments on the notes) and our subsidiaries' debt and to fund our and our subsidiaries' planned capital expenditures and our ongoing operations will depend on our and our subsidiaries' ability to generate cash flow. Our ability to generate cash flow is dependent on many factors, including:

our future operating performance;

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the demand for our products and services;

general economic conditions and conditions affecting customer and advertiser spending;

competition and our ability to stabilize customer losses; and

legal and regulatory factors affecting our business.

Some of these factors are beyond our control. If we are unable to generate sufficient cash flow, we may not be able to service and repay our debt (including the notes), operate our business, respond to competitive challenges or fund our other liquidity and capital needs. Cash flows from operating activities and amounts available under our credit facilities may not be sufficient to permit us to fund our operations and satisfy our principal repayment obligations that come due in 2006 and, we believe, such amounts will not be sufficient to fund our operations and satisfy such repayment obligations thereafter.

Additionally, franchise valuations performed in accordance with the requirements of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 142, *Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets*, are based on the projected cash flows derived by selling products and services to new customers in future periods. Declines in future cash flows could result in lower valuations which in turn may result in impairments to the franchise assets in our financial statements.

Charter Operating may not be able to access funds under its credit facilities if it fails to satisfy the covenant restrictions in its credit facilities, which could adversely affect our financial condition and our ability to conduct our business.

Our subsidiaries have historically relied on access to credit facilities in order to fund operations and to service parent company debt, and we expect such reliance to continue in the future. Unused availability under the Charter Operating credit facilities was approximately \$1.2 billion as of March 31, 2005. However, Charter Operating's access to these funds is subject to its satisfaction of the covenants and conditions to borrowing in those facilities.

An event of default under the credit facilities or indentures, if not waived, could result in the acceleration of those debt obligations and, consequently, other debt obligations. Such acceleration could result in the exercise of remedies by our creditors and could force us to seek the protection of the bankruptcy laws, which could materially adversely impact our ability to operate our business and to make payments under our debt instruments. In addition, an event of default under the credit facilities, such as the failure to maintain the applicable required financial ratios, would prevent additional borrowing under our subsidiary credit facilities, which could materially adversely affect our ability to operate our business and to make payments under our debt instruments.

All of our and our subsidiaries' outstanding debt is subject to change of control provisions. We may not have the ability to raise the funds necessary to fulfill our obligations under our indebtedness following a change of control, which would place us in default under the applicable debt instruments.

We may not have the ability to raise the funds necessary to fulfill our obligations under the notes, our other convertible senior notes and our subsidiaries' senior notes, senior discount notes, senior floating rate notes and credit facilities following a change of control. Under the indentures governing the notes and our other convertible senior notes, upon the occurrence of specified change of control events, including certain specified dispositions of stock by Mr. Allen, we are required to offer to repurchase all of our outstanding convertible senior notes. However, Charter may not have sufficient funds at the time of the change of control event to make the required repurchase of its convertible senior notes, and our subsidiaries are limited in their ability to make distributions or other payments to us to fund any required repurchase. In addition, a change of control under our subsidiaries' credit facilities and indentures governing our subsidiaries' notes would require the repayment of borrowings totaling \$18.0 billion at March 31, 2005 under those credit facilities and indentures. Because such credit facilities and notes are obligations of our subsidiaries, the credit facilities and our subsidiaries' notes would have to be repaid by our subsidiaries before their assets could be available to us to repurchase the notes and our other convertible senior notes.

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Additionally, our subsidiaries may not have sufficient funds at the time of the change of control to make the required repurchases or repayments. Our failure to make or complete a change of control offer would place us in default under the notes and our other convertible senior notes. The failure of our subsidiaries to make a change of control offer or repay the amounts outstanding under their credit facilities would place them in default under these agreements and could result in a default under the indentures governing the notes and our other convertible senior notes and our subsidiaries' credit facilities and notes.

If we do not fulfill our obligations to you under the notes, you will not have any recourse against Mr. Allen or his affiliates.

None of our direct or indirect equity holders, directors, officers, employees or affiliates, including, without limitation, Mr. Allen or his affiliates, Charter Investment, Inc. or Vulcan Cable III Inc., will be an obligor or guarantor under the notes. The indenture governing the notes expressly provides that these parties will not have any liability for our obligations under the notes or the indenture governing the notes. If we do not fulfill our obligations to you under the notes, you will have no recourse against any of our direct or indirect equity holders, directors, officers, employees or affiliates including, without limitation, Mr. Allen, Charter Investment, Inc. or Vulcan Cable III Inc.

Paul G. Allen and his affiliates are not obligated to purchase equity from, contribute to or loan funds to us or any of our subsidiaries in the future.

Paul G. Allen and his affiliates have purchased equity, contributed funds and provided other financial support to Charter and Charter Holdco in the past. However, Mr. Allen and his affiliates are not obligated to purchase equity from, contribute to or loan funds to us or any of our subsidiaries in the future.

Risks Related to Our Business

We operate in a very competitive business environment, which affects our ability to attract and retain customers and can adversely affect our business and operations. We have lost a significant number of customers to direct broadcast satellite competition, and further loss of customers could have a material negative impact on our business.

The industry in which we operate is highly competitive and has become more so in recent years. In some instances, we compete against companies with fewer regulatory burdens, easier access to financing, greater personnel resources, greater brand name recognition and long-established relationships with regulatory authorities and customers. Increasing consolidation in the cable industry and the repeal of certain ownership rules may provide additional benefits to certain of our competitors, either through access to financing, resources or efficiencies of scale.

Our principal competitor for video services throughout our territory is direct broadcast satellite television services, also known as DBS. Competition from DBS, including intensive marketing efforts, aggressive pricing and the ability of DBS to provide certain services that we are in the process of developing, has had an adverse impact on our ability to retain customers. DBS has grown rapidly over the last several years and continues to do so. The cable industry, including Charter, has lost a significant number of subscribers to DBS competition, and we face serious challenges in this area in the future. We believe that competition from DBS service providers may present greater challenges in areas of lower population density, and that our systems service a higher concentration of such areas than those of other major cable service providers.

Local telephone companies and electric utilities can offer video and other services in competition with us and they increasingly may do so in the future. Certain telephone companies have begun more extensive deployment of fiber in their networks that will enable them to begin providing video services, as well as telephony and high-bandwidth Internet access services, to residential and business customers. Some of these telephone companies have obtained, and are now seeking, franchises or operating authorizations that are less burdensome than existing Charter franchises. The subscription television industry also faces competition from free broadcast television and from other communications and entertainment media.

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Further loss of customers to DBS or other alternative video and data services could have a material negative impact on the value of our business and its performance.

With respect to our Internet access services, we face competition, including intensive marketing efforts and aggressive pricing, from dial-up and digital subscriber line (DSL). DSL service is competitive with high-speed data service over cable systems. Telephone companies (which already have telephone lines into the household, an existing customer base and other operational functions in place) and other companies offer DSL service. In addition, DBS providers have entered into joint marketing arrangements with Internet access providers to offer bundled video and Internet service, which competes with our ability to provide bundled services to our customers.

In order to attract new customers, from time to time we make promotional offers, including offers of temporarily reduced-price or free service. These promotional programs result in significant advertising, programming and operating expenses, and also require us to make capital expenditures to acquire additional digital set-top terminals. Customers who subscribe to our services as a result of these offerings may not remain customers for any significant period of time following the end of the promotional period. A failure to retain existing customers and customers added through promotional offerings or to collect the amounts they owe us could have an adverse effect on our business and financial results.

Mergers, joint ventures and alliances among franchised, wireless or private cable operators, satellite television providers, local exchange carriers and others may provide additional benefits to some of our competitors, either through access to financing, resources or efficiencies of scale, or the ability to provide multiple services in direct competition with us.

We cannot assure you that our cable systems will allow us to compete effectively. Additionally, as we expand our offerings to include other telecommunications services, and to introduce new and enhanced services, we will be subject to competition from other providers of the services we offer. We cannot predict the extent to which competition may affect our business and operations in the future. See Business Competition.

Our dispute with Paul G. Allen concerning the ownership of an interest in CC VIII, LLC could adversely impact the value of our common stock, our ability to repay our debt and our ability to obtain future financing.

As part of our acquisition of the cable systems owned by Bresnan Communications Company Limited Partnership in February 2000, CC VIII, LLC, our indirect limited liability company subsidiary, issued, after adjustments, 24,273,943 Class A preferred membership units (which we refer to collectively as the CC VIII interest) with a value and an initial capital account of approximately \$630 million to certain sellers affiliated with AT&T Broadband, subsequently owned by Comcast Corporation (which we refer to as the Comcast sellers). Our controlling shareholder, Paul G. Allen, granted the Comcast sellers the right to sell to him the CC VIII interest for approximately \$630 million plus 4.5% interest annually from February 2000 (which we refer to as the Comcast put right). In April 2002, the Comcast sellers exercised the Comcast put right in full, and this transaction was consummated on June 6, 2003. Accordingly, Mr. Allen has become the holder of the CC VIII interest, indirectly through an affiliate.

We are in a dispute with Mr. Allen as to whether he is entitled to retain the CC VIII interest, or whether he must exchange that interest for units of our subsidiary, Charter Holdco. The dispute concerns whether the documentation for the Bresnan transaction was correct and complete with regard to the ultimate ownership of the CC VIII interest following consummation of the Comcast put right. The law firm that prepared the documents for the Bresnan transaction brought this matter to the attention of Charter and representatives of Mr. Allen in 2002. After subsequently conducting an investigation of the relevant facts and circumstances, a Special Committee of Charter's Board of Directors determined that a scrivener's error had occurred in February 2000 in connection with the preparation of the Bresnan transaction documents, resulting in the inadvertent deletion of a provision that would have required an automatic exchange of the CC VIII interest for 24,273,943 Charter Holdco membership units if the Comcast sellers exercised the Comcast put right and sold the CC VIII interest to Mr. Allen or his

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affiliates. Mr. Allen disagrees with the Special Committee's determinations and contends that the transaction is accurately reflected in the transaction documentation and contemporaneous and subsequent company public disclosures. If the Special Committee and Mr. Allen are unable to reach a resolution through an ongoing mediation process or to agree on an alternative dispute resolution process, the Special Committee intends to seek resolution of this dispute through judicial proceedings in an action that would be commenced, after appropriate notice, in the Delaware Court of Chancery against Mr. Allen and his affiliates seeking contract reformation, declaratory relief as to the respective rights of the parties regarding this dispute and alternative forms of legal and equitable relief. This dispute and related matters (including certain issues associated with the ultimate disposition of the interest in CC VIII) are more fully described in *Certain Relationships and Related Transactions* *Transactions Arising Out of Our Organizational Structure and Mr. Allen's Investment in Charter and Its Subsidiaries* *Equity Put Rights* *CC VIII*.

If it is determined that Mr. Allen is entitled to retain the CC VIII interest, then our indirect interest in CC VIII would continue to exclude the value of Mr. Allen's interest in CC VIII, consistent with our current treatment of the CC VIII interest in our financial statements. As a result, the amounts available for repayment to holders of the notes or our other creditors, including creditors of our subsidiaries, would not include the value represented by Mr. Allen's CC VIII interest, and the value of our Class A common stock similarly would not reflect any value attributable to Mr. Allen's CC VIII interest (which also could affect the trading value of the notes). Further, such retained interest in CC VIII could reduce our borrowing capacity (due to a portion of the equity interest being held by a party other than Charter or a Charter subsidiary) or make it more difficult for us to secure financing for our CC VIII subsidiary due to concerns as to possible claims that could be asserted by Mr. Allen as the holder of a minority interest in CC VIII. In addition, if it is determined that Mr. Allen is entitled to retain the CC VIII interest, such retention could complicate efforts to sell our CC VIII subsidiary or its assets to a third party, and Mr. Allen could be entitled to receive a portion of the proceeds of such a sale, thereby reducing the amount of such proceeds that would otherwise be available to us and our security holders.

We are currently the subject of certain lawsuits and other legal matters, the unfavorable outcome of which could adversely affect our business and financial condition.

A number of putative federal class action lawsuits, which were filed in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri against us and certain of our former and present officers and directors alleging violations of securities laws, and were consolidated for pretrial purposes. In addition, a number of shareholder derivative lawsuits were filed against us in the same and other jurisdictions. A shareholders derivative suit was filed in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri against us and our then current directors. Also, three shareholder derivative suits were filed in Missouri state court against us, our then current directors and our former independent auditor. These state court actions were consolidated. The federal shareholder derivative suit and the consolidated derivative suit each alleged that the defendants breached their fiduciary duties.

Charter entered into Stipulations of Settlement setting forth proposed terms of settlement for the above-described class actions and derivative suits. On May 23, 2005 the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri conducted the final fairness hearing for the actions, and it issued its final order approving the settlement on June 30, 2005. Members of the class have 30 days from the issuance of that order to file an appeal challenging the approval. A notice of appeal has been filed relating to the settlement, but Charter does not yet know the specific issues presented by such appeal. There can be no assurance that there will not be other appeals, or that any such appeal would not be successful. See *Business* *Legal Proceedings*.

In October 2001, two customers, Nikki Nicholls and Geraldine M. Barber, filed a class action suit against Charter Holdco in South Carolina state court purportedly on behalf of a class of Charter Holdco's customers, alleging, among other things, that Charter Holdco improperly charged them a wire maintenance fee without request or permission. They also claimed that Charter Holdco improperly required them to rent analog and/or digital set-top terminals even though their television sets were cable ready. A substantively identical case was filed in the Superior Court of Athens Clarke County, Georgia by Emma S. Tobar on March 26, 2002,

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alleging a nationwide class for these claims. Following mediation the parties reached a tentative settlement, subject to final documentation and court approval. On November 10, 2004, the court granted final approval of the settlement, rejecting the positions advanced by two objectors to the settlement. On December 13, 2004, the court entered a written order formally approving that settlement. On January 11, 2005, certain class members appealed the order entered by the Georgia court. Those objectors voluntarily dismissed their appeal with prejudice on February 8, 2005. On February 9, 2005, the South Carolina Court of Common Pleas entered a court order of dismissal for the South Carolina Class Action. Additionally, in November 2004, one of the objectors to this settlement filed a similar, but not identical, lawsuit in Massachusetts state court. The action purports to be brought on behalf of three different classes of customers and generally alleges that the putative class members were overcharged for converter boxes and remote controls.

Furthermore, we are also a party to, or otherwise involved in, other lawsuits, claims, proceedings and legal matters that have arisen in the ordinary course of conducting our business, certain of which are described in Business Legal Proceedings. In addition, our restatement of our 2000, 2001 and 2002 financial statements could lead to additional or expanded claims or investigations.

We cannot predict with certainty the ultimate outcome of any of the lawsuits, claims, proceedings and other legal matters to which we are a party to, or otherwise involved in, due to, among other things, (i) the inherent uncertainties of litigation and legal matters generally, (ii) the remaining conditions to the finalization of the settlements and resolutions described above, (iii) the possibility of appeals and objections to the settlements described above, and (iv) the need for us to comply with, and/or otherwise implement, certain covenants, conditions, undertakings, procedures and other obligations that would be, or have been, imposed under the terms of the settlements and resolutions described above.

The termination of the settlements described above, an unfavorable outcome in any of the lawsuits pending against us, or in any other legal matter, including those described above, or our failure to comply with or properly implement the terms of the settlements described above, could result in substantial potential liabilities and otherwise have a material adverse effect on our business, consolidated financial condition and results of operations, in our liquidity, our operations, and/or our ability to comply with any debt covenants. Further, these legal matters, and our actions in response to them, could result in substantial potential liabilities, additional defense and other costs, increase our indemnification obligations, divert management's attention, and/or adversely affect our ability to execute our business and financial strategies.

See Business Legal Proceedings for additional information concerning these and other litigation matters.

We have a history of net losses and expect to continue to experience net losses. Consequently, we may not have the ability to finance future operations.

We have had a history of net losses and expect to continue to report net losses for the foreseeable future. Our net losses are principally attributable to insufficient revenue to cover the interest costs we incur because of our high level of debt, the depreciation expenses that we incur resulting from the capital investments we have made in our cable properties, and the amortization and impairment of our franchise intangibles. We expect that these expenses (other than amortization and impairment of franchises) will remain significant, and we expect to continue to report net losses for the foreseeable future. We reported losses before cumulative effect of accounting change of \$2.3 billion for 2002, \$238 million for 2003 and \$3.6 billion for 2004 and \$293 million and \$352 million for the three months ended March 31, 2004 and 2005, respectively. Continued losses would reduce our cash available from operations to service our indebtedness, as well as limit our ability to finance our operations.

We may not have the ability to pass our increasing programming costs on to our customers, which would adversely affect our cash flow and operating margins.

Programming has been, and is expected to continue to be, our largest operating expense item. In recent years, the cable industry has experienced a rapid escalation in the cost of programming, particularly

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sports programming. We expect programming costs to continue to increase because of a variety of factors, including inflationary or negotiated annual increases, additional programming being provided to customers and increased costs to purchase programming. The inability to fully pass these programming cost increases on to our customers would have an adverse impact on our cash flow and operating margins. As measured by programming costs, and excluding premium services (substantially all of which were renegotiated and renewed in 2003), as of July 7, 2005, approximately 9% of our current programming contracts were expired, and approximately another 21% were scheduled to expire at or before the end of 2005. There can be no assurance that these agreements will be renewed on favorable or comparable terms. Our programming costs increased by approximately 6% in 2004 and we expect our programming costs in 2005 to increase at a higher rate than in 2004. To the extent that we are unable to reach agreement with certain programmers on terms that we believe are reasonable we may be forced to remove such programming channels from our line-up, which could result in a further loss of customers.

If our required capital expenditures exceed our projections, we may not have sufficient funding, which could adversely affect our growth, financial condition and results of operations.

During the three months ended March 31, 2005, we spent approximately \$211 million on capital expenditures. During 2005, we expect capital expenditures to be approximately \$1 billion. The actual amount of our capital expenditures depends on the level of growth in high-speed data customers and in the delivery of other advanced services, as well as the cost of introducing any new services. We may need additional capital if there is accelerated growth in high-speed data customers or in the delivery of other advanced services. If we cannot obtain such capital from increases in our cash flow from operating activities, additional borrowings or other sources, our growth, financial condition and results of operations could suffer materially.

Our inability to respond to technological developments and meet customer demand for new products and services could limit our ability to compete effectively.

Our business is characterized by rapid technological change and the introduction of new products and services. We cannot assure you that we will be able to fund the capital expenditures necessary to keep pace with unanticipated technological developments, or that we will successfully anticipate the demand of our customers for products and services requiring new technology. Our inability to maintain and expand our upgraded systems and provide advanced services in a timely manner, or to anticipate the demands of the marketplace, could materially adversely affect our ability to attract and retain customers. Consequently, our growth, financial condition and results of operations could suffer materially.

We may not be able to carry out our strategy to improve operating results by standardizing and streamlining operations and procedures.

In prior years, we experienced rapid growth through acquisitions of a number of cable operators and the rapid rebuild and rollout of advanced services. Our future success will depend in part on our ability to standardize and streamline our operations. The failure to implement a consistent corporate culture and management, operating or financial systems or procedures necessary to standardize and streamline our operations and effectively operate our enterprise could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

Recent management changes could disrupt operations.

Since August 2004, we have experienced a number of changes in our senior management, including changes in our Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer, Chief Operating Officer, Executive Vice President of Finance and Strategy and Interim co-Chief Financial Officer and our Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary. Further, the individuals currently serving as Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer and General Counsel are serving in an interim capacity. These senior management changes could disrupt our ability to manage our business as we transition to and integrate a

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new management team, and any such disruption could adversely affect our operations, growth, financial condition and results of operations.

Malicious and abusive Internet practices could impair our high-speed data services.

Our high-speed data customers utilize our network to access the Internet and, as a consequence, we or they may become victim to common malicious and abusive Internet activities, such as unsolicited mass advertising (or spam) and dissemination of viruses, worms and other destructive or disruptive software. These activities could have adverse consequences on our network and our customers, including degradation of service, excessive call volume to call centers and damage to our or our customers' equipment and data. Significant incidents could lead to customer dissatisfaction and, ultimately, loss of customers or revenue, in addition to increased costs to us to service our customers and protect our network. Any significant loss of high-speed data customers or revenue or significant increase in costs of serving those customers could adversely affect our growth, financial condition and results of operations.

We could be deemed an investment company under the Investment Company Act of 1940. This would impose significant restrictions on us and would be likely to have a material adverse impact on our growth, financial condition and results of operation.

Our principal assets are our equity interests in Charter Holdco and certain indebtedness of Charter Holdco. If our membership interest in Charter Holdco were to constitute less than 50% of the voting securities issued by Charter Holdco, then our interest in Charter Holdco could be deemed an investment security for purposes of the Investment Company Act. This may occur, for example, if a court determines that the Class B common stock is no longer entitled to special voting rights and, in accordance with the terms of the Charter Holdco limited liability company agreement, our membership units in Charter Holdco were to lose their special voting privileges. A determination that such interest was an investment security could cause us to be deemed to be an investment company under the Investment Company Act, unless an exemption from registration were available or we were to obtain an order of the Securities and Exchange Commission excluding or exempting us from registration under the Investment Company Act.

If anything were to happen which would cause us to be deemed an investment company, the Investment Company Act would impose significant restrictions on us, including severe limitations on our ability to borrow money, to issue additional capital stock and to transact business with affiliates. In addition, because our operations are very different from those of the typical registered investment company, regulation under the Investment Company Act could affect us in other ways that are extremely difficult to predict. In sum, if we were deemed to be an investment company it could become impractical for us to continue our business as currently conducted and our growth, our financial condition and our results of operations could suffer materially.

If a court determines that the Class B common stock is no longer entitled to special voting rights, we would lose our rights to manage Charter Holdco. In addition to the investment company risks discussed above, this could materially impact the value of the Class A common stock and the notes.

If a court determines that the Class B common stock is no longer entitled to special voting rights, Charter would no longer have a controlling voting interest in, and would lose its right to manage, Charter Holdco. If this were to occur:

we would retain our proportional equity interest in Charter Holdco but would lose all of our powers to direct the management and affairs of Charter Holdco and its subsidiaries; and

we would become strictly a passive investment vehicle and would be treated under the Investment Company Act as an investment company.

This result, as well as the impact of being treated under the Investment Company Act as an investment company, could materially adversely impact:

the liquidity of the Class A common stock and the notes;

how the Class A common stock and the notes trade in the marketplace;

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the price that purchasers would be willing to pay for the Class A common stock in a change of control transaction or otherwise; and

the market price of the Class A common stock and the notes.

Uncertainties that may arise with respect to the nature of our management role and voting power and organizational documents as a result of any challenge to the special voting rights of the Class B common stock, including legal actions or proceedings relating thereto, may also materially adversely impact the value of the Class A common stock and the notes.

Risks Related to Mr. Allen's Controlling Position

The failure by Mr. Allen to maintain a minimum voting and economic interest in us could trigger a change of control default under our subsidiary's credit facilities.

The Charter Operating credit facilities provide that the failure by Mr. Allen to maintain a 35% direct or indirect voting interest in the applicable borrower would result in a change of control default. Such a default could result in the acceleration of repayment of the notes and our and our subsidiaries' other indebtedness, including borrowings under the Charter Operating credit facilities. See Risks Related to Significant Indebtedness of Us and Our Subsidiaries. All of our and our subsidiaries' outstanding debt is subject to change of control provisions. We may not have the ability to raise the funds necessary to fulfill our obligations under our indebtedness following a change of control, which would place us in default under the applicable debt instruments.

Mr. Allen controls our stockholder voting and may have interests that conflict with your interests.

Mr. Allen has the ability to control us. Through his control of approximately 93% of the voting power of our capital stock, Mr. Allen, as sole Class B shareholder, is entitled to elect all but one of our board members and effectively has the voting power to elect the remaining board member as well since he controls more than the majority of the vote of the Class A and Class B shareholders voting together as a class. By virtue of Mr. Allen's control of the voting power of Charter, we are a controlled company under Nasdaq rule 4350(c)(5) and are not subject to requirements that a majority of our directors be independent (as defined in Nasdaq's rules) or that there be a nominating committee of Charter's board. Charter does not have a nominating committee. Mr. Allen thus has the ability to control fundamental corporate transactions requiring equity holder approval, including, but not limited to, the election of all of our directors, approval of merger transactions involving us and the sale of all or substantially all of our assets.

Mr. Allen is not restricted from investing in, and has invested and engaged in, other businesses involving or related to the operation of cable television systems, video programming, high-speed data service, telephony or business and financial transactions conducted through broadband interactivity and Internet services. Mr. Allen may also engage in other businesses that compete or may in the future compete with us.

Mr. Allen's control over our management and affairs could create conflicts of interest if he is faced with decisions that could have different implications for him, us and the holders of the notes and our Class A common stock. Further, Mr. Allen could effectively cause us to enter into contracts with another entity in which he owns an interest or to decline a transaction into which he (or another entity in which he owns an interest) ultimately enters.

Current and future agreements between us and either Mr. Allen or his affiliates may not be the result of arm's-length negotiations. Consequently, such agreements may be less favorable to us than agreements that we could otherwise have entered into with unaffiliated third parties. See Certain Relationships and Related Transactions.

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We are not permitted to engage in any business activity other than the cable transmission of video, audio and data unless Mr. Allen authorizes us to pursue that particular business activity, which could adversely affect our ability to offer new products and services outside of the cable transmission business and to enter into new businesses, and could adversely affect our growth, financial condition and results of operations.

Our certificate of incorporation and Charter Holdco's limited liability company agreement provide that Charter and Charter Holdco and its subsidiaries, cannot engage in any business activity outside the cable transmission business except for specified businesses. This will be the case unless we first offer the opportunity to pursue the particular business activity to Mr. Allen, he decides not to pursue it and he consents to our engaging in the business activity. The cable transmission business means the business of transmitting video, audio (including telephone services), and data over cable television systems owned, operated or managed by us from time to time. These provisions may limit our ability to take advantage of attractive business opportunities.

The loss of Mr. Allen's services could adversely affect our ability to manage our business.

Mr. Allen is Chairman of our board of directors and provides strategic guidance and other services to us. If we were to lose his services, our growth, financial condition and results of operations could be adversely impacted.

The special tax allocation provisions of the Charter Holdco limited liability company agreement may cause us in some circumstances to pay more taxes than if the special tax allocation provisions were not in effect.

Charter Holdco's limited liability company agreement provided that through the end of 2003, net tax losses of Charter Holdco that would otherwise have been allocated to us based generally on our percentage ownership of outstanding common membership units of Charter Holdco would instead be allocated to the membership units held by Vulcan Cable III Inc. and Charter Investment, Inc. The purpose of these special tax allocation provisions was to allow Mr. Allen to take advantage for tax purposes of the losses generated by Charter Holdco. However, beginning in 2002, due to tax capital account limitations, certain net tax losses of Charter Holdco were allocated to us and have continued to be so allocated since that time. The limited liability company agreement further provides that beginning at the time that Charter Holdco generates net tax profits (as determined under the applicable federal income tax rules for determining book profits), the net tax profits that would otherwise have been allocated to us based generally on our percentage of outstanding common membership units of Charter Holdco will instead generally be allocated to membership units held by Vulcan Cable III Inc. and Charter Investment, Inc. In some situations, the special tax allocation provisions could result in our having to pay taxes in an amount that is more or less than if Charter Holdco had allocated net tax losses and net tax profits to its members based generally on the percentage of outstanding common membership units owned by such members from the time of the completion of the offering. See Description of Capital Stock and Membership Units Special Tax Allocation Provisions. For further discussion on the details of the tax allocation provisions see Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates Income Taxes.

The issuance of our Class A common stock pursuant to the share lending agreement, as well as possible future conversions of the notes, significantly increase the risk that we will experience an ownership change in the future for tax purposes, resulting in a material limitation on the use of a substantial amount of our existing net operating loss carryforwards.

As of March 31, 2005, Charter had approximately \$5.4 billion of tax net operating losses (resulting in a gross deferred tax asset of approximately \$2.1 billion), expiring in the years 2010 through 2025. Due to uncertainties in projected future taxable income, valuation allowances have been established against the gross deferred tax assets for book accounting purposes except for deferred benefits available to offset certain deferred tax liabilities. Currently, such tax net operating losses can accumulate and be used to

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offset any future taxable income of Charter. An ownership change as defined in Section 382 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, would place significant limitations, on an annual basis, on the use of such net operating losses to offset any future taxable income we may generate. Such limitations, in conjunction with the net operating loss expiration provisions, could effectively eliminate our ability to use a substantial portion of our net operating losses to offset future taxable income. In connection with the original issuance of the notes offered hereby, we agreed to issue additional shares of our Class A common stock pursuant to a share lending agreement. See Registered Borrow Facility. While the tax treatment of the issuance of shares issued pursuant to a borrowing transaction under the share lending agreement is uncertain, we do not believe that such issuance would result in our experiencing an ownership change. However, future transactions and the timing of such transactions could cause an ownership change. Such transactions include additional issuances of common stock by us (including but not limited to issuances upon future conversion of our 5.875% convertible senior notes or as contemplated in the proposed settlement of derivative class action litigation), reacquisitions of the borrowed shares by us, or acquisitions or sales of shares by certain holders of our shares, including persons who have held, currently hold, or accumulate in the future five percent or more of our outstanding stock (including upon an exchange by Paul Allen or his affiliates, directly or indirectly, of membership units of Charter Holdco into our Class A common stock). Many of the foregoing transactions are beyond our control.

Risks Related to Regulatory and Legislative Matters

Our business is subject to extensive governmental legislation and regulation, which could adversely affect our business.

Regulation of the cable industry has increased cable operators' administrative and operational expenses and limited their revenues. Cable operators are subject to, among other things:

rules governing the provision of cable equipment and compatibility with new digital technologies;

rules and regulations relating to subscriber privacy;

limited rate regulation;

requirements governing when a cable system must carry a particular broadcast station and when it must first obtain consent to carry a broadcast station;

rules for franchise renewals and transfers; and

other requirements covering a variety of operational areas such as equal employment opportunity, technical standards and customer service requirements.

Additionally, many aspects of these regulations are currently the subject of judicial proceedings and administrative or legislative proposals. There are also ongoing efforts to amend or expand the federal, state and local regulation of some of our cable systems, which may compound the regulatory risks we already face. Certain states and localities are considering new telecommunications taxes that could increase operating expenses.

Our cable systems are operated under franchises that are subject to non-renewal or termination. The failure to renew a franchise in one or more key markets could adversely affect our business.

Our cable systems generally operate pursuant to franchises, permits and similar authorizations issued by a state or local governmental authority controlling the public rights-of-way. Many franchises establish comprehensive facilities and service requirements, as well as specific customer service standards and monetary penalties for non-compliance. In many cases, franchises are terminable if the franchisee fails to comply with significant provisions set forth in the franchise agreement governing system operations. Franchises are generally granted for fixed terms and must be periodically renewed. Local franchising authorities may resist granting a renewal if either past performance or the prospective operating proposal is considered inadequate. Franchise authorities often demand concessions or other commitments as a condition to renewal. In some instances, franchises have not been renewed at expiration, and we have operated and are operating under either temporary operating agreements or without a license while

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negotiating renewal terms with the local franchising authorities. Approximately 10% of our franchises, covering approximately 9% of our video customers, were expired as of March 31, 2005. Approximately 6% of additional franchises, covering approximately an additional 8% of our video customers, will expire on or before December 31, 2005, if not renewed prior to expiration.

We cannot assure you that we will be able to comply with all significant provisions of our franchise agreements and certain of our franchisors have from time to time alleged that we have not complied with these agreements. Additionally, although historically we have renewed our franchises without incurring significant costs, we cannot assure you that we will be able to renew, or to renew as favorably, our franchises in the future. A termination of and/or a sustained failure to renew a franchise in one or more key markets could adversely affect our business in the affected geographic area.

Our cable systems are operated under franchises that are non-exclusive. Accordingly, local franchising authorities can grant additional franchises and create competition in market areas where none existed previously, resulting in overbuilds, which could adversely affect results of operations.

Our cable systems are operated under non-exclusive franchises granted by local franchising authorities. Consequently, local franchising authorities can grant additional franchises to competitors in the same geographic area or operate their own cable systems. In addition, certain telephone companies are seeking authority to operate in local communities without first obtaining a local franchise. As a result, competing operators may build systems in areas in which we hold franchises. In some cases municipal utilities may legally compete with us without obtaining a franchise from the local franchising authority. The existence of more than one cable system operating in the same territory is referred to as an overbuild. These overbuilds could adversely affect our growth, financial condition and results of operations by creating or increasing competition. As of March 31, 2005, we are aware of overbuild situations impacting approximately 5% of our estimated homes passed, and potential overbuild situations in areas servicing approximately 1% of our estimated homes passed. Additional overbuild situations may occur in other systems.