



# Keep Us Connected

AT&T's Plan for PEG	What the Expert Says
<p>PEG channels on AT&amp;T's U-Verse system</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• are cumbersome to find and slower to load than commercial channels</li> <li>• have inferior picture and audio quality compared to commercial channels</li> <li>• cannot support closed captioning</li> <li>• cannot support second audio programming</li> <li>• shut down after 2-3 hours of viewing</li> <li>• are incompatible with programmed recording devices like Tivo</li> <li>• are excluded from program guides and listings</li> </ul>	<p>"Any channel can be delivered and presented on AT&amp;T's system close to its original technical quality, the same as the commercial channels. The degraded picture quality of the PEG channels on AT&amp;T's system results from AT&amp;T's business choices, not technical capability."</p> <p>- Andrew Afflerbach, CEO/Director of Engineering Columbia Telecommunications Corp.</p>
<p>PEG channels on AT&amp;T's U-Verse system will be dumped into a cumbersome "Channel 99." Viewers will be forced to scroll through a menu of PEG channels from the entire region in order to find the channel they are looking for. All channel identity is stripped away.</p>	<p>"This is unfair to the thousands of health, civic and neighborhood groups, local governments and educational institutions that rely on PEG channels to deliver programming that benefits the community. The ink is barely dry on Illinois' video franchise law and AT&amp;T is already renegeing on its promises to the public."</p> <p>- Barbara Popovic Keep Us Connected</p>
<p>PEG channels on AT&amp;T's U-Verse system will not be listed in an electronic program guide, though commercial channels will. Viewers cannot click on a station directly by its channel number, and they cannot channel "jump" between a PEG station and a commercial station.</p>	<p>"The Illinois cable and video franchise bill we passed last year called for the same quality of service for the people's channels as for commercial channels, and that's what we expect."</p> <p>- Rep. Julie Hamos (D-Evanston)</p>