



SONOMA COUNTY FARM BUREAU

Affiliated with the California Farm Bureau Federation and the American Farm Bureau Federation

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

RE: Applications of T-Mobile US, Inc. and Sprint Corporation, WT Docket No. 18-197

Dear Ms. Dortch,

Since 1917, the Sonoma County Farm Bureau has been working to protect agriculture for future generations. It is our mission to represent, protect and advance the social, economic and educational interests of the farmers and ranchers of Sonoma County.

California's size and diversity have long been assets to our state economy. We are leaders in both technology and agriculture, which each contribute significantly to our GDP. Increasingly, the advances in tech are having a direct impact on agriculture, through innovations that improve yields and lower costs.

Internet access is vital to the successful use of these innovative devices, which rely on data transmission to provide accurate readings and forecasts. Unfortunately, high-speed wireless internet has not yet reached many of California's rural farming communities.

The Sonoma County Farm Bureau is supporting the merger of T-Mobile and Sprint because we believe the merger will improve rural internet access, bringing a high-speed 5G wireless network to California's rural regions. In addition to opening the world of internet-enabled devices to farmers, expanding 5G will also mean better mobile phone access—there are still parts of California where calls are routinely dropped or choppy due to limited coverage.

Additional benefits to rural towns are things such as improved access for schools and libraries, and better communication for emergency services. The merger and subsequent build-out will be a boost to California's farming communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Tawny Tesconi'.

Tawny Tesconi
Executive Director, Sonoma County Farm Bureau