



August 1, 2018

Hon. Mike S. Lee
Chairman
Senate Judiciary Committee
Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition
Policy, and Consumer Rights
330 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Hon. Amy Klobuchar
Ranking Member
Senate Judiciary Committee
Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition
Policy, and Consumer Rights
825 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

RE: *Applications of T-Mobile US, Inc. and Sprint Corporation, Consolidated Applications for Consent To Transfer Control of Licenses and Authorizations, WT Docket No. 18-197*

Dear Chairman Lee and Ranking Member Klobuchar:

GCI Communication Corp. (“GCI”) supports the proposed merger of T-Mobile and Sprint because it will create a stronger mobile broadband operator with sufficient scale and financial resources to bring much-needed wholesale and retail wireless competition to markets throughout the United States.

GCI is a facilities-based provider of wireless and wireline services in the state of Alaska. We operate the largest broadband network in Alaska and cover more of Alaska’s population than any other provider in the state. Approving the merger of T-Mobile and Sprint will allow us to better serve our customers. T-Mobile is a GCI preferred American roaming partner, and our long-term roaming agreement with T-Mobile allows us to offer competitive wireless broadband service to GCI customers when they travel outside of our state. The T-Mobile roaming agreement provides us with the breadth and depth of wireless broadband coverage we need to attract and retain subscribers to our network.

Our partnership with T-Mobile outside Alaska is essential to our ability to remain competitive with Verizon and AT&T inside Alaska. Alaskans travel outside of the state with increasing frequency. Without robust roaming arrangements, our wireless customers would simply port their service to Verizon or AT&T, which routinely boast of high levels of connectivity and performance along with nationwide coverage as a way to attract and retain customers.

Following the merger, we anticipate that the New T-Mobile will be an even more attractive roaming partner for GCI because its network will have broader coverage and faster speeds in the United States where GCI's customers are likely to travel. With a network that can match or surpass AT&T or Verizon's, the New T-Mobile has the potential to exert downward pricing pressure on the wholesale rates that GCI pays across all its roaming partners. The New T-Mobile's 5G network will also create extra network capacity, which promises to create new business opportunities for GCI and other resellers.

In addition, the union of T-Mobile and Sprint promises to improve the economies of scale necessary to recoup the large fixed costs of building a better 5G network faster than otherwise would be possible and to push coverage deeper into rural parts of the United States.

GCI is excited about the potential to work with the New T-Mobile as the company continues to expand the speed, capacity and throughput of its wireless broadband network. GCI supports the merger of T-Mobile and Sprint because it will create a third entity with the scale to stimulate competition. Thank you for your consideration and please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Respectfully submitted,



Ronald Duncan
CEO and Co-Founder
GCI Communication Corp.

CC: Hon. Lisa Murkowski, United States Senator
Hon. Dan Sullivan, United States Senator
Hon. Don Young, United States Representative