

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,

I am writing to you today in my capacity as Executive Director of the Windham Regional Community Council. On behalf of the Council, I encourage the FCC to favorably consider the T-Mobile and Sprint merger that is before you.

Attached for your review and reference is a letter the Windham Regional Community Council sent to our U.S. Senator, Richard Blumenthal, prior to the Senate subcommittee hearing on the merger. In it are details on why the Council has decided to actively support the T-Mobile merger.

Of particular interest to us is the increased broadband coverage, improved signal quality, and increased network capacity. Access to broadband is necessary to be competitive, and rural areas quite simply do not have reliable service. This must change if these areas of Connecticut—and similar communities across the country—are to thrive.

A nationwide 5G network will require effort and investment, and T-Mobile and Sprint are poised to make this a reality. Their commitment to 5G will accelerate competitive activity from AT&T and Verizon, and get us to a network that will serve us well into the future.

Sincerely,

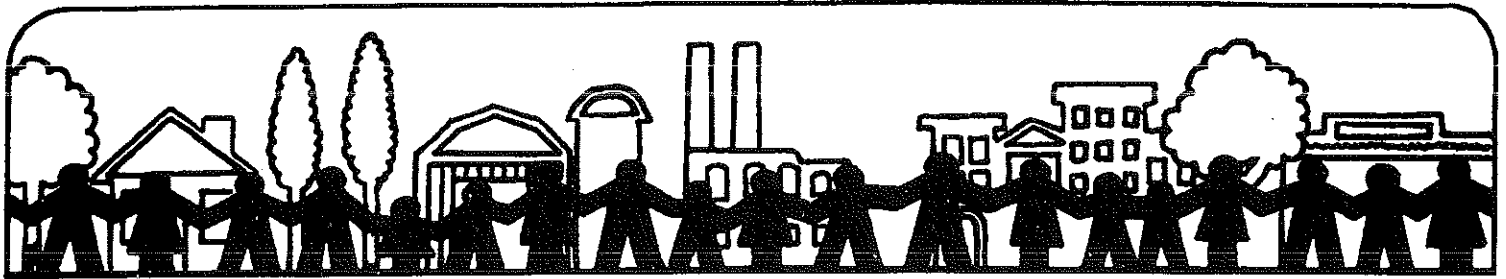
/s/ Jeffrey Beadle

Jeffrey Beadle
Executive Director, Windham Regional Community Council

Attachment

cc: (via email)

Chairman Ajit Pai
Commissioner Michael O’Rielly
Commissioner Brendan Carr
Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel



Windham Regional Community Council, Inc.

June 21, 2018

Jeffrey G. Beadle, Executive Director

Senator Richard Blumenthal
706 Hart Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, DC, 20510

Regarding T-Mobile-Sprint Merger And Upcoming Senate Subcommittee On Antitrust, Competition Policy And Consumer Rights Hearing

Dear Senator Blumenthal,

On behalf of the Windham Regional Community Council, an agency committed to improving the health and social well-being of the residents living in Windham and Tolland County since 1974, I urge you to look favorably upon the T-Mobile/Sprint merger, the subject of the subcommittee hearing next week. I believe the merger will likely benefit the clients we serve directly as well as the regional economy as a whole.

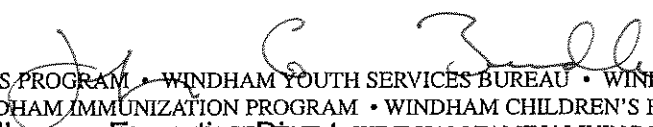
The opportunities presented by the development of the new 5G networks are impressive. Competing in the 21st century economy demands access to these networks. It is a fact that the existing telecom environment has not worked well for rural communities.

The new T-Mobile will bring increased broadband coverage, improved signal quality, and increased network capacity that will enable data-intensive services for rural Americans, like those of us in Eastern Connecticut. The sluggish growth of Connecticut's economy has hit this part of the state particularly hard. We see the impact on our clients each and every day. In addition, this merger will challenge the other providers, Verizon and AT&T, to accelerate their 5G network deployment to the benefit of all consumers, especially those in rural America.

We see the impact every day of an economy struggling to get back on its feet. It can be felt through the challenges we face in homelessness and hunger. It can be measured by the lack of home ownership. It can be seen in the children we care for who are often undernourished. Meaningful work is closely tied to self-esteem. Rebuilding this economy must be a priority.

As always, we appreciate the work you do for the citizens of Connecticut. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,


Jeffrey G. Beadle, Executive Director
WINDHAM AIDS PROGRAM • WINDHAM YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU • WINDHAM VETERAN'S CENTER
WINDHAM IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM • WINDHAM CHILDREN'S FIRST INITIATIVE
WINDHAM FAMILY LIVING PROGRAM • PROJECT HOME
A PLACE TO STAY • FETAL AND INFANT MORTALITY REVIEW • WILLIMANTIC FARMER'S MARKET
WINDHAM HEIGHTS DAY CARE CENTER AND THE NEW HEIGHTS CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM