



## Louisiana Public Service Commission

222 N. Parkerson Avenue  
Crowley, Louisiana 70526

Mike Francis  
Commissioner

District IV

Main Office: (337) 514-2000

Toll Free: (800) 256-2490

Fax: (337) 514-2565

September 7, 2018

### VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

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

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

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

Dear Ms. Dortch,

On behalf of District 4 of the Louisiana Public Service Commission], I ask you to approve the proposed merger between T-Mobile and Sprint. While there are countless benefits for consumers as a result of this merger, I would like to bring your attention to three critical ones: 1) the creation of a world-class nationwide 5G network, 2) better coverage for rural Americans, and 3) more competition in both the traditional wireless market and market for mobile internet that is emerging.

Because of the cost savings from the proposed merger, the New T-Mobile would be able to invest in an aggressive network build out over the next three years, helping the U.S. win the race to 5G and creating an enormous stimulus for our economy. This new network will also use expanded capacity to lower marginal costs, resulting in lower prices for consumers nationwide.

Moreover, the combined company's 5G network will bring increased broadband coverage to rural Americans, along with improved signal quality and increased network capacity. The companies have stated that this will increase coverage to reach 96 percent of rural Americans, giving them access to the 21<sup>st</sup> century classroom, workplace, and economy.

Finally, the T-Mobile-Sprint merger will increase competition. The New T-Mobile will have the scale, spectrum, and network to better compete with Verizon and AT&T, as well as cable and internet heavyweights competing in the broadband market. In many areas, the merger will give consumers a choice of three providers instead of two. In order to keep up with the New T-Mobile, AT&T and Verizon will be forced to continue improving their offerings and lowering their prices.

I am confident that the merger between T-Mobile and Sprint will benefit District 4 by lowering prices, increasing competition, and moving all of America into the 5G future.

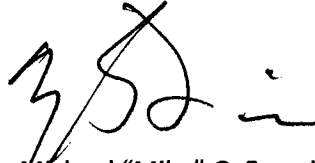
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Marlene H. Dortch  
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Thank you for taking the time to review my comments. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike G. Francis", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Michael "Mike" G. Francis  
Commissioner  
District 4 – Louisiana Public Service Commission

cc: (via email)

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