

1 That's the reasons behind our more conservative
2 forecasts.

3 THE CHAIRMAN: Do you -- and understand, please,
4 I realize that both of these are a lot more than zero and
5 both represent tremendous economic growth for our country,
6 but still an interesting difference, unless you both agree
7 that it's not interesting and can explain that to me as
8 well.

9 If I could follow up on this, Mr. Kerr. You
10 say: "In its current format, PCS will not realize its
11 full potential on a timely basis." I'm reading from your
12 written submission. "And most importantly, the public
13 will not be best served with the diverse range of cost-
14 effective products and services."

15 Would it be correct for me to infer that you, in
16 effect, are saying that you might be closer to the 29
17 million projection if there were a different format?

18 MR. KERR: That is correct. In fact, our
19 baseline scenario we had drawn for PCS, and in an
20 environment with two, or at most three, strong MTA
21 competitors, would suggest a market potential up in the 30

1 million range -- 30 plus million.

2 At the end of a day do I believe that PCS can
3 attain 29, 30 million subscribers? Absolutely. My debate
4 is when they will achieve that.

5 THE CHAIRMAN: Well, I suppose everyone would
6 agree the sooner the better. That's a fair statement,
7 isn't it?

8 MR. KERR: That is a fair standard, and the
9 issue I guess, therefore, is what mix of regulatory and
10 technological environments will get us there at a timely
11 fashion.

12 THE CHAIRMAN: Just to close this loop, has he
13 given you any better insight on his 17 million? Did you
14 want to comment on that?

15 MR. HAMILTON: No, I really wouldn't want to
16 comment on his forecast. I guess I just want to emphasize
17 that of all the forecasts we've been hearing, even though
18 there may be great ranges, as you mentioned, they are very
19 higher -- greater than zero.

20 I think that is really due to of the cellular,
21 SMR, PCS, and even narrow band paging, they'll all have
22 some equal capabilities, so there really will be a real

1 fight, and I think what's more clear is how big the
2 numbers are versus which industries are going to get
3 which, and that will be left to the competitive market.

4 I do agree with some of the other comments, in
5 that if you look at where the subscribers will have to
6 come from to meet any of these demand projections, it will
7 have to be on the consumer side. Our research has shown
8 that 70 percent of the new cellular users are
9 predominately personal users, and even 50 percent of the
10 paging users today are using the pagers for personal use.

11 Some of the other -- I think GTE has said that
12 they have found price elasticities being the key, and we
13 also see that. These consumers, they'll have a choice
14 between a lot of different technologies to serve their
15 basic needs, whether it be in a two-way paging or whether
16 it be in a PCS or cellular or digital SMR.

17 THE CHAIRMAN: Did you agree -- just as my last
18 question -- do you agree with Mr. Kerr's statement that in
19 its current format PCS will not realize its full potential
20 on a timely basis?

21 MR. HAMILTON: No. Again, if PCS is licensed in
22 1994 -- the end of '94 -- that'll be a key point. As far

1 as the seven licenses, we see it very rapidly
2 consolidating between three and four. We don't see seven
3 being out there on the market for long. So even though
4 there might be seven licensed, our predictions are based
5 on three to four PCS providers in each market.

6 THE CHAIRMAN: So you think that he's right,
7 that that's the way to maximize the potential, but you
8 think it will --

9 MR. HAMILTON: It will happen.

10 THE CHAIRMAN: -- it will reduce to that quickly,
11 anyhow?

12 MR. HAMILTON: Yes.

13 MR. LOWENSTEIN: Can I add something here?

14 THE CHAIRMAN: Sure.

15 MR. LOWENSTEIN: As the third kind of
16 consultant, or market research-type on the panel here --

17 THE CHAIRMAN: I haven't run your calculation
18 yet. 17, 29, and what number do you have?

19 MR. LOWENSTEIN: The one point that I think is a
20 little bit, a demarcation between these two speakers is, I
21 think one is looking at ESMR as part of the mix and the
22 other isn't, and I'm not remembering which one is and

1 which one isn't.

2 I think that is a fairly key issue, particularly
3 in terms of the business market opportunity. Business
4 customers are largely unserved by wireless services right
5 now, or the types of wireless services that they would
6 like, as Mr. Twyber mentioned in his testimony.

7 I think that the longer there is a delay in the
8 allocation of licenses for PCS, the more of an opportunity
9 it creates for digital SMR services, such as those being
10 proposed by MCI Nextel to come in and offer enterprise-
11 wide solutions that integrate voice data as well as paging
12 technologies.

13 I also think the one issue that hasn't been
14 addressed today, and I think it's interesting to
15 potentially explore, is the non-2 gigahertz PCS type
16 services but extended range wireless services that will be
17 offered by enhanced cordless phones.

18 There's a lot of development work taking place
19 by those who are manufacturing cordless phones right now
20 that will significantly expand the range of today's
21 cordless devices from 100 or 200 yards, out into the 1 to
22 3 mile range, from a home base station.

1 Clearly, even if that's not of the 2 gigahertz
2 band, which it probably won't be, that has a significant
3 potential for taking a part of what is the forecast for
4 newly-licensed PCS as part of basically an enhanced
5 cordless telephony service that has rates closer to land
6 line rates and has a fairly broad appeal to consumers who
7 are already very much used to. As we mentioned, 50
8 percent of households have cordless phones right now.

9 They're used to that form factor, they're used
10 to the structure, et cetera. So I think it's important to
11 recognize that as well.

12 I think we're all in general agreement here as
13 to the size of the wireless opportunity. If you look out
14 in the 5- to 10-year time frame, I think all of our
15 numbers kind of converge upon somewhere around 30 to 40
16 percent of individuals having a wireless service and a
17 fair approximation in terms of number of households, I
18 think, where the disagreement is is in terms of where it
19 will come from.

20 DR. PEPPER: You've predicted, if I read this
21 correctly, by '98 about 2.5 million new PCS voice
22 customers?

1 MR. LOWENSTEIN: Yes. Just on the newly-
2 licensed PCS.

3 DR. PEPPER: All right. Then about 15 percent
4 of the forecast base of 32 million from cellular.

5 I guess one of the questions is: there seems to
6 be distinctions being made between cellular and PCS and
7 advanced paging services, extended cordless phone. Are
8 those correct market segmentations going forward, to
9 maintain? To what extent will cellular operators be able
10 to provide and provide a full range? To what extent would
11 a 30 megahertz PCS provider be able to provide the full
12 range of services?

13 One of the implications from what we're hearing,
14 is that once a cellular operator has a customer, it
15 appears that your assumption is that that customer is
16 locked in, that they cannot move or be moved to one of the
17 other new service providers?

18 MR. LOWENSTEIN: Well, we think that the
19 cellular companies are extremely well positioned to offer
20 PCS-like services over the existing cellular spectrum, as
21 the complementary set of services to what will emerge in
22 the 2 gigahertz band.

1 As they digitize their network, as they put in
2 more microcells, particularly some of the B side carriers,
3 for example, that R-BOX subsidiaries, have already
4 increasing levels of intelligence land line network to
5 connect to and offer that fall and retype services,
6 they're very well positioned to offer much of what we see
7 as a PCS type of services.

8 That's not to say that they're not interested in
9 and will not bid for some of the licenses in the 2
10 gigahertz band, but we think that, given that market is
11 not yet a certainty and it's a new market, that they will
12 be continuing to deploy network infrastructure to
13 facilitate competitive services over the cellular spectrum
14 that are very much PCS-like in nature. That's one of the
15 reasons why we have forecasted and segmented the market in
16 the way we have.

17 MR. HALLER: I'd like to get some expansion on
18 that, if I could. Again, since we didn't give directions
19 on how you had to present your charts, it's a little
20 difficult to compare two people, but I'll just give you an
21 example.

22 I know that there's disagreement here, but I'm

1 curious as to why both of you feel that way.

2 Mr. Stroup, you indicate that in the year 2003
3 that cellular will have about 17.4 percent penetration,
4 whereas PCS is only going to be about 10.4, so it's not
5 double but it's still highly balanced towards the cellular
6 side.

7 Mr. Hamilton, you have similar projections.
8 Yours is 32 percent for PCS and 56 percent cellular.

9 Others may have similar projections, but those
10 are the two I happened to pick out. Why is that? I know,
11 Mr. Lowenstein, you've indicated that cellular is already
12 in there, they're well positioned.

13 Are there things the Commission should be doing
14 to assure that PCS, when it comes on line, is going to be
15 an aggressive competitor to cellular? Anything we can do
16 to make that balance a little different than 2:1, at the
17 year 2003 or 2004?

18 Tom, do you want to start?

19 MR. STROUP: Sure, I'll jump in. I think a
20 major factor that has to be considered, and that may
21 explain some of the discrepancies that you've heard, is
22 definitional. We deal with six services in our study.

1 I think that one factor that has to be
2 considered is the year of licensing, and that may explain
3 the difference between 17 and 28 or 29 or ours of 31. The
4 longer the Commission delays in getting onto licensing,
5 the greater the advantage the incumbents have, whether
6 they are cellular carriers or ESMR carriers.

7 That's a very important factor, and that's a
8 primary reason why cellular will continue to have a
9 dominant market share, or a major market share, is that
10 they are out there operating, adding 14,000 customers per
11 day.

12 I think it's extremely important that the
13 Commission fashion rules that allow the new entrants to be
14 able to provide a competitive service, but that they be
15 able to do so quickly, because one of the comments that's
16 already been made is that this is seen as opportunity
17 that's slipping away. And that's absolutely right.

18 We can debate the market structure, the number
19 of licensees, the size of the spectrum grants for the next
20 two years, and not have any better idea of what the right
21 answer is.

22 I think the advocates of each position have made

1 their points quite clear. The record is full of all of
2 the arguments. I don't think that we're going to hear
3 anything new, but it will be irrelevant if it takes two
4 years to be able to answer those questions, because the
5 opportunity will have slipped away.

6 DR. PEPPER: I don't think anybody has suggested
7 that it's going to take two years to answer those
8 questions. In fact, we're moving quite rapidly. The
9 purpose of this hearing -- these sets of round tables
10 today and tomorrow -- is so that we can more efficiently
11 collect information from the competing parties who usually
12 come in on one on ones and do it much more efficiently so
13 it can move much more rapidly.

14 THE CHAIRMAN:
15 Could I ask you, and you only need to take two minutes to
16 answer this.

17 "In its current format, PCS will not realize its
18 full potential on a timely basis." That's Mr. Kerr's
19 statement. Do you agree with that?

20 MR. STROUP: No. I believe that the market will
21 make corrections. I believe that if the Commission allows
22 companies to aggregate the spectrum, that if there are
inefficiencies that are made or incorrect decisions that

1 are made in the allocation, it will be corrected.

2 I don't think that there is a system that will
3 work well in the urban markets and in the rural markets.
4 I don't think that there are areas of the country where I
5 grew up where there are going to be seven new PCS
6 licensees, in addition to two cellular and an ESMR
7 license.

8 However, in New York City, that may be a
9 completely different situation. I think rather than
10 continuing to debate that issue, the market will correct
11 for any inefficiencies that occur in the licensing
12 process.

13 THE CHAIRMAN: Let me see if I have this right.
14 What you're saying is, it may well be that Mr. Kerr is
15 exactly right, but it doesn't really matter?

16 MR. STROUP: I think that, again, if we let the
17 debate go on, it won't.

18 But, most importantly, we've found a couple of
19 things, one is that the customer, the buyer, when we did
20 our real market trial, and sold services to them, was
21 interested in the value of what they got, and pricing did
22 influence their buy decision substantially.

1 We -- we, in a four month period, penetrated 15
2 percent of our target market, and we clearly were able to
3 influence that a great, great deal. So I think that we
4 need to make sure we understand that the assessment of
5 demand, very quantified, depends upon a set of
6 assumptions, and we -- we're none of us are clairvoyant
7 enough to know 10 years downstream what the real
8 application will be.

9 We see cellular, and PCS, and wireless data, and
10 imaging, and other kinds of things all coming together,
11 and being part of personal communications.

12 We think the marketing will determine that more
13 than will some of these other factors, although they're
14 important, and they have -- they have to create an equal
15 opportunity for the service provider to do it, ultimately,
16 what the customer says, if it's met, we'll allow the
17 penetration to be pretty much controlled, to be whatever
18 depth we want it to be.

19 MR. PEPPER: Can we pursue this pricing question
20 ,for a moment. You talked about the importance of pricing
21 and price sensitivity is really critical here.

22 Could you pursue that in terms of the entry, the

1 -- the cost of the handset, and also then in terms of the
2 monthly service charge, and the extent to which it goes
3 back to a question asked earlier that the incumbent
4 cellular operators have been able -- or, in your mind, are
5 they being able to lock in customers, instead of migrating
6 them or moving them to a new PCS service, as it's priced
7 more aggressively, and if they can maintain and keep their
8 customer base by lowering price, then, you know, what does
9 that tell us today about the price of cellular service
10 today.

11 MR. WAYLAND: Well, I think you can get in to a
12 commodity offering and lower price, and certainly that is
13 the strategy that some may choose to use. That's not, I
14 believe, the best strategy for providers to provide, to
15 use.

16 Providers should look to the market needs in
17 developing a new an unfulfilled and under-fulfilled market
18 need, and develop offerings to satisfy them, and charge
19 the fair amount that the customer is willing to pay for
20 that.

21 What we found in our telego trial was that the
22 customer doesn't want to put up that large one time cost

1 for the phone. They don't want to sign a one year term
2 agreement. They don't want a large entry cost, but they
3 are willing to pay some numbers of dollars per month as
4 perceived as equal to the value of what we provided them.

5 And we found what they were willing to pay, in
6 our trials, was something under cellular monthly revenues,
7 but certainly greater than what they pay today for the
8 local exchange services, so there's a substantial amount
9 of per-customer per-month revenues.

10 And we could influence that a great deal by
11 putting features, and characteristics, and functions into
12 the offering that met their real needs.

13 MR. PEPPER: Mr. Lowenstein, or Mr. Hulak, Mr.
14 Hamilton, in terms of your market research study, what
15 have you found on pricing service?

16 MR. LOWENSTEIN: I would agree with what Mr.
17 Wayland said with one thing, a very important caveat. Any
18 wireless service that includes some sort of a wireless
19 capability from inside the home, a cordless type
20 capability inside the home, or near the home, that one
21 could normally approximate with today's cordless phone or
22 enhanced cordless phone, consumers are not willing to pay

1 more than traditional land line rates for that type of
2 service.

3 So, for example, we conducted the survey, and
4 found that 33 percent of the respondents were either very
5 or somewhat interested in the type of follow me type
6 services where the terminal cost would be between \$2 and
7 \$300, which we think is a fairly reasonable entry point
8 for the type of premium levels of mobility that would be
9 accessible from a follow me type service, and then in
10 terms of the usage charges, they would be charged land
11 line rates when they're in or around the home, they would
12 be charged 25 land line, plus 25 percent when they're in
13 kind of the neighborhood, a kind of five mile radius of
14 their home or their office, and then when they're in a
15 higher speed or wider -- wider levels of mobility, more
16 approximating a cellular type services -- service, it
17 would be a 50 percent land line, plus 50 percent.

18 All of those rates for the wireless elements of
19 that and for the mobility elements of that are about half
20 of what today's cellular rates are. The average cellular
21 call today, at peak time, you know, during the day, is
22 approximately twice the equivalent cost of a land line

1 call.

2 We think that PCS prices will have -- will have
3 to settle in somewhere between typical land line prices
4 and today's cellular prices to be attractive to that next
5 wave of potential users.

6 MR. PEPPER: Is it the next wave? So you're
7 looking at attracting customers today who are not
8 customers for wireless services like cellular, as opposed
9 to trying to move people from a cellular to a new -- a new
10 service provider?

11 MR. LOWENSTEIN: Well, mainly -- mainly, yes.
12 There will be some of the -- some migration, as well, to a
13 more follow me type service because of the fact that
14 that's not undertaken by cellular, but it is both -- it is
15 the consumer market, but also the -- the business market,
16 to the extent that companies implement a wide solution
17 such as the type of solution Mr. Twyver mentioned,
18 something that might be hanging on from the wireless PBX
19 base, for example.

20 So a business, an employee, can take their
21 terminal, and they use it in their office, but then they
22 can use it also when they leave the office, and connect on

1 to another -- to a wireless network and use it in their
2 home, or while they're commuting to and from work, for
3 example.

4 MR. PEPPER: If a provider can offer that, maybe
5 I'm missing something. I don't understand then why more
6 customers wouldn't migrate from today's cellular service
7 to a new service provider if cellular did not provide that
8 kind of follow me service. The enterprise service, you're
9 saying that they will be able to?

10 MR. LOWENSTEIN: Yes, but -- but these services
11 I'm talking about right now aren't really offered by
12 cellular.

13 MR. PEPPER: No, I understand that. Therefore,
14 if they're desirable, why -- why will cellular maintain
15 at least, depending upon which projection, at least a two
16 to one penetration over any of the new entrants for the
17 foreseeable future if the new entrants are going to
18 provide the new kinds of services that you're talking
19 about, as well as lower pricing, which we've heard is
20 terribly important?

21 MR. LOWENSTEIN: Because of the installed base,
22 and because of the fact that a lot of users are business

1 users, and there's a little bit less price sensitivity in
2 the business model than a consumer model, which is the
3 next wave of adopters that we're looking at in terms of
4 the new services, and also because of the fact that the
5 cellular providers will probably lower their prices, as
6 well, in response to their potential competitive service
7 offerings of the new -- of the new entrants of the market
8 and the new services. We do forecast that cellular prices
9 will fall over time. They have already, and they will
10 continue to do so.

11 MR. PEPPER: Is the installed base issue, the
12 customers' investment in their own equipment, I assume,
13 what you're talking about?

14 MR. LOWENSTEIN: Yes, and rate plans, and the
15 fact that businesses are -- are starting to adopt cellular
16 type solutions a little bit more aggressive for their
17 employees.

18 MR. PEPPER: So what you're saying is that there
19 is a real head start advantage for cellular today with the
20 customer -- their existing customer base?

21 MR. LOWENSTEIN: There definitely is somewhat of
22 a head start advantage for -- for cellular providers;

1 absolutely.

2 MR. PEPPER: Can anybody quantify that,
3 Mr. Hamilton?

4 MR. HAMILTON: Well, as far as the -- talking
5 about the installer base, and what that means to the
6 competitive environment, it's much harder for the PCS
7 providers to take away a customer from a -- if they're
8 already on a system, cellular SMR paging, than competing
9 for that customer as a new customer.

10 It's not only related to price, it's related to
11 things brand loyalty and education about the product.
12 PCS is going to be growing out, and the consumers, it may
13 be in a very confusing environment in the future.

14 There will be, from all directions,
15 advertisements about these new mobile services, however
16 they're defined and promoted, and they're going to have to
17 try to educate the consumer about what's different about
18 their service and the services they already have.

19 And I think that also goes back to the delay
20 issue. Why is that so important? It's because if growth
21 in the cellular and other mobile industries were very low
22 or moderate at this time, delay will not mean as much, but

look at it over the past two years, both the
and paging industries have met with phenomenal
I mean, more growth in that two years in the
industry than in the previous seven years.

So when we look at our demand forecasts, we see
-- if we look at demand as, you know, the traditional
curve, are you in the beginning, rising steep, or in the
mature markets. The growth that we've seen over the next
two years, have meant that we will reach that
maturity at sooner levels, and that really impacts any
delay that a new service provider has of getting into the
market.

MR. KATZ: This is a, I think, very powerful
argument in favor of the FCC moving as fast as possible,
and you would agree with that, also?

6 Let me ask you if you also envision what Mr.
17 Bilak was talking about, because I think, and you also Mr.
18 Stroup, and that is the sort of devolution from seven to
19 three to four entities. Does that process have in it any
20 potential for delay or do you think not?

21 MR. HAMILTON: We think the -- whatever the
22 market structure or the FCC provides, as long as it allows

1 again for aggregation and no restrictions upon what you
2 can do with your license, that consolidation will happen
3 quickly.

4 MR. KATZ: But do you think that the necessity
5 to move through that consolidation is an element of delay
6 that we should try to avoid, or, by contrast, do you feel
7 that that's not the sort of delaying process that you
8 would be concerned about?

9 MR. HAMILTON: I would be concerned about it. I
10 wouldn't -- if it meant delaying the licenses and trying
11 to get a better scheme, in order to prevent some
12 consolidation, no, then I'm against it. Go ahead with the
13 licensing as it is in the market.

14 MR. STROUP: If I could comment on this delay
15 issue. I think that there was a widely held belief in the
16 industry, approximately six months ago, that auctions
17 would be commencing this summer. And, now, based on
18 discussions that have taken place, the expectation, it's
19 probably going to take place later this year or maybe even
20 into 1995, and that's the delay that's being discussed.

21 I'm delighted to hear the comments that have
22 been made on planning now to move them forward quickly.

1 But bearing into the expectations of approximately six
2 months ago, there -- there already is delay that is
3 occurring.

4 MR. HALLER: I would like to ask each of you to
5 respond simply to a question. If we make no changes in
6 the decision -- if the commission makes no changes in the
7 decisions that were made previously, we avoid a recon
8 cycle.

9 If we make changes, then we wind up with another
10 with another pleading cycle. Now, which is better, to try
11 to make other decisions, assuming that there are some in
12 the last decision that were incorrect, or could be changed
13 for the better, or is it better simply to affirm the
14 previous decision, given it wasn't an illegal decision,
15 you know, it could be affirmed, just as it was.

16 What is the better choice, to go forward, and
17 affirm the last decision, or to try to refine it, and risk
18 another pleading cycle? Let's start on this side.

19 MR. TRAMPUSH: In terms of no changes in the
20 decision -- I'm representing the rural telephone
21 companies. No changes would basically preclude that
22 segment of the industry's participation in the new

1 technology. The main rural companies that are interested
2 in pioneering their own PCS serving area, and, in fact,
3 they may be the only ones interested in providing that
4 service.

5 MR. VAUGHAN: Excuse me again. You're saying we
6 should make the changes?

7 MR. TRAMPUSH: I think you should make changes,
8 yes, Mr. Vaughan, and the nature of the changes would
9 include examining cellular ownership restrictions. There
10 are many small companies that own more than 20 percent of
11 rural cellular partnerships that have no control
12 whatsoever over those partnerships, they're more of an
13 investment.

14 So if you want to foster competition between
15 rural and PCS, one way to do that would be to look at
16 relaxing those ownership restrictions.

17 Another important thing to look at, which has
18 been added here by the coalition is to allow partitioning
19 of licenses. Small companies can't afford to buy BTAs and
20 MTAs, yet they are interested in serving the wire line
21 territories. That would also speed deployment of the
22 service to rural areas quicker than it would under BTA and

1 MTA through a licensing scheme.

2 The third area to look at would be the build-out
3 restrictions in the rural areas if partitioning is allowed
4 to make the economics work, so the service can be provided
5 to customers as soon as possible.

6 MR. VAUGHAN: Simply affirm the current
7 decision.

8 MR. WAYLAND: We believe a re-look at this is
9 certainly in order. I believe that it's very, very
10 important that the commission carefully examine the nature
11 of meeting the consumers' needs, and time to meet those
12 needs is part of it, but to be able --

13 MR. VAUGHAN: You're suggesting that, right now,
14 the way the commission's order is written, that if the
15 commission has to fix this, we need a full year to do so
16 is because if the commission makes a major change, we're
17 going to go back in to the recon again, and that's what
18 you're saying. It's better for this commission to take
19 another full year before it acts, based on what you've
20 read in that order?

21 MR. WAYLAND: Yes. I think it's much better to
22 do the right thing than to do something that isn't