



JIMMY PARNELL  
PRESIDENT

October 13, 2014

Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Commissioners:

The Alabama Farmers Federation is committed to promoting the economic, social, and educational interests of the citizens of Alabama. As the state's largest general farm organization, and on behalf of our nearly 350,000 members, we are pleased to offer the following comments in support of the proposed merger between AT&T and DirecTV.

We have always supported access to technologies that allow farmers to be more productive and efficient in their pursuit to provide food, fiber, and energy to the world. Keeping our farmers competitive is essential to the state's rural economy. Farmers rely on reliable internet access to manage their operations effectively, and we are eager to see greater access to high-speed internet in more communities throughout the state.

We understand this merger will allow more than 300,000 Alabamians access to high-speed internet service for the first time or new competition through AT&T's commitment to greatly expand its broadband footprint across the state.

The Alabama Farmers Federation asks for your support of this merger that will enhance the standard of living for a significant number of rural Alabamians.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jimmy Parnell", with a large, stylized flourish extending from the end of the signature.

Jimmy Parnell

