



October 14, 2014

Ms. Marlene Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street SW, Suite 800  
Washington, DC 20554

**Re: Applications of AT&T Inc. and DIRECTV for consent to Assign or Transfer Control of Licenses & Authorizations, MB Docket No. 14-90**

Dear Secretary Dortch:

The New Mexico Association of Commerce & Industry (ACI) serves as New Mexico's statewide business advocate. In this capacity we work to promote sound policy and practices to enhance economic growth and mobility.

On behalf of our members, I am writing in support of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) approving the merger of AT&T and DIRECTV.

New Mexico is a state of beautiful wide-open spaces as well as thriving urban centers and each deserves the highest quality broadband telecommunications services. Economic development is key to our future and New Mexico simply cannot move ahead without fast, reliable high speed internet. The commitment of expanding access to high speed Internet to more than 150,000 customer locations, predominantly in rural areas, is critical for the future of New Mexico.

While I am a passionate advocate for expanding business opportunities throughout our state, I am also keenly aware that people use the Internet for everything from online learning to tracking commodities trading and communicating with healthcare professionals in real time. Students in areas that are hours from the nearest school can tap into an online education program that brings rigorous curriculum right to their computer.

Of equal importance is the fact that the merger will bring new competition to areas that have previously been served by only one broadband provider, or perhaps none at all. More competition means more choices for consumers, better availability of services, and better prices for those bundled services a combined AT&T and DIRECTV entity would provide.



Increased broadband services and technologies will allow New Mexico to better compete for jobs and maximize education opportunities in the 21<sup>st</sup> century information-based economy. We simply need the enhanced access that this merger would bring. I urge the Commission to approve the merger quickly, New Mexicans are depending on it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jason Espinoza', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Jason Espinoza  
Vice President, Government Affairs  
New Mexico Association of Commerce & Industry