



STATE OF ARKANSAS
THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
MIKE BEEBE

March 2, 2005

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

Dear Mr. Dortch:

It is my pleasure to write this letter in support of the pending merger of ALLTEL and Western Wireless. In my business and certainly throughout our great state as well as this region of the United States, wireless communications is vitally important. It is critical to the daily operating efficiency of my office as it is with every department of government. It certainly is a key component with respect to our success in competing for industry.

As Attorney General of the State of Arkansas, I am acutely aware of the great benefit of having and maintaining a viable wireless system. This merger should enhance the services that ALLTEL and Western Wireless provide today. I am confident that our state will benefit as a result of this merger and the entire surrounding area will most certainly benefit from this expanded communications footprint.

I appreciate the opportunity to express my support of this merger. Should you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Beebe".

Mike Beebe

MB/tn