

**ROSEBUD SIOUX TRIBE UTILITY COMMISSION**

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Rosebud Sioux Reservation

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*Marlene Dortch, Secretary*  
*John Muleta, Chief of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau*  
*Federal Communications Commission*  
*445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW*  
*Washington, DC 20554*

**Re: WT Docket No. 05-50**

*Dear Ms. Dortch and Mr. Muleta:*

*I am writing to urge the Commission to allow Alltel to purchase Western Wireless Corporation. Western Wireless has been providing excellent phone service on our reservation. Our tribe relies heavily on communications technology. Our people need to be able to communicate with each other in a reliable and affordable way. This is important for our elders, our students, our tribal government and our emergency response personnel.*

*This merger will also be good for competition and good for tribal consumers because the combined company will have the resources to speed deployment of advanced wireless service to rural areas. It will have a greater ability to buy at reasonable prices equipment and customer handsets necessary for high-speed wireless services, so that tribal businesses and consumers have access to the same cutting-edge services available to their urban and suburban counterparts.*

*We understand that the merger will expand the combined company's into 33 states, eliminating roaming costs for the combined company's customers in many rural areas and increasing the number of "in-network" mobile phone users that customers can call for free.*

*The merger will result in a company that will have a large regional position. It will create a stronger competitor against the larger, nationwide wireless carriers and will provide tribal residents with expanded services, which is something we need. Please approve this merger as soon as possible.*

*Sincerely,*

  
*Tony Rogers, Director*  
*RSTUC*

**Cc: RST Utility Commission**  
**File**

*Tony Rogers*  
*Director*

*Deana Leighton*  
*Administrative Assistant*