



# ASSOCIATED GENERAL CONTRACTORS of OHIO

*Build with the Best!*

March 7, 2005

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Ms. Dortch:

This letter is to support the pending merger of ALLTEL and Western Wireless Corporation. In the telecommunications industry, wireless communications is one of the most significant growth drivers. My industry relies heavily on wireless communications technology and is fully interested in better coverage, improved reliability and enhanced call quality.

As Executive Vice President of Associated General Contractors, I am aware of the status of services being provided by various wireless communications providers. This merger will be good for competition and will result in a combined company that will have a more significant regional presence. I believe this merger will strengthen the capabilities of each company and enhance the service for their combined subscribers.

Any assistance you can provide in supporting this merger will make a significant difference in improving technology within our region.

Sincerely,

Richard J. Hobbs  
Executive Vice President