



National Black Chamber of Commerce
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March 23, 2005

Secretary Marlene Dortch
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., SW
Washington, DC 20554

WT Docket Number 05-

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Dear Secretary Dortch,

The National Black Chamber of Commerce represents over 1 million Black owned businesses and has direct access to over 100,000 business owners. We provide advocacy and analysis to businesses across the country and also in 10 other nations. We work to empower communities of African descent through entrepreneurship and capitalistic activity.

Our members believe in competition and American enterprise, which is why we are writing you in support of the Sprint Nextel merger. This merger will spur competition, advance technology and continue to provide businesses with the services they need to excel in our economy. Furthermore, both of these companies are longtime partners in our community, so we are confident that Sprint Nextel will continue to serve and engage Black owned businesses as a merged company.

Sprint and Nextel have a record of advancing diversity as well as providing equal opportunities and consumer choices in their business development. Both companies have exemplary policies regarding Inclusive Workplace Training, Procurement Diversity and Equal Employment Opportunity. It is consistent with our mission to support this merger. The National Black Chamber of Commerce enthusiastically asks the Federal Communications Commission to support the proposed Sprint Nextel merger. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Harry C. Alford
President & CEO