



Dave Heineman
Governor

STATE OF NEBRASKA

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April 15, 2005

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

Dear Ms. Dortch:

I offer this letter in support of the pending merger of ALLTEL and Western Wireless. I believe this merger will benefit wireless consumers in Nebraska and will be positive for wireless consumers in rural markets throughout the country.

As the citizens of Nebraska increasingly rely on wireless service to communicate and conduct business, it becomes vitally important to have reliable service, comprehensive coverage and call quality. This merger will enhance the services that ALLTEL and Western Wireless provide.

Both ALLTEL and Western Wireless have particular experience and expertise serving rural America. As a combined entity, they will have the scale and scope needed to speed deployment of advanced wireless service to rural areas and ensure that businesses and consumers in rural markets have access to the cutting-edge technology needed to drive economic growth.

The merger of ALLTEL and Western Wireless will expand the combined company's area to 33 states creating the largest wireless region in the country. Not only will this eliminate roaming costs for the combined company's customers, it will result in a more significant regional presence offering expanded services, particularly in rural markets.

I encourage the approval of this transaction and thank you for the opportunity to comment in this proceeding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dave Heineman".

Dave Heineman
Governor