



April 25, 2005

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C.

*Re: WC Docket No. 05-65; SBC Communications Inc. and AT&T
Corporation
Applications for Approval of Transfer of Control*

Dear Ms. Dortch:

I am writing today to express our support for SBC Communications in their filing before the Federal Communications Commission, as noted above. Following a series of discussions in which we considered all perspectives relative to this case, the committees representing our members on such issues expressed their support for SBC's efforts to seek regulatory approval to offer advanced telecommunications services.

Cleveland, Ohio has a rich history of providing advanced telecommunications services that have been developed over the years by investments made by our telecommunications providers, including SBC. This tracks the national experience as well. The telecommunications sector in this country accounts for nearly three percent of the U.S. GDP, more than any other high tech industry. The existing infrastructure reflects trillions of dollars in capital investment, peaking in 2000 at about \$110 billion per year.

In our nation's quest to provide the most innovative, cost effective telecommunications services to our citizens, it is imperative that our nation's legislators and regulators recognize and support policies that nurture this growth. The proposed merger of SBC Communications and AT&T will produce a flagship telecommunications carrier that will be able to offer the most efficient, highest quality capabilities to government, businesses and consumers. Combining their strengths will result in more investment in, and faster deployment of technologies that will benefit all.



For these reasons, the Greater Cleveland Partnership and its members have determined that regulations that support this kind of industry growth should be encouraged and supported.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Carol Caruso' in a cursive script.

Carol Caruso
Senior Vice President