

Dear Commissioner,

I am writing to urge you to block the proposed SBC/AT&T and Verizon/MCI mergers (WC Dockets 05-65 and 05-75, respectively). These mergers would stifle competition and would decrease options while increasing price. They could even worsen the "digital divide" at a time when over 60 percent of Americans don't have high-speed Internet service in the home.

Continuously, these companies offer promises of improving access, quality of services, and affordability through their megapolistic practices. How does fewer companies in a vertical oligopoly improve fair-access, technological innovation, and reduce costs? Rather, the proposed mergers would stifle competition, raise prices, and lead to fewer choices, making the problem worse, not better.

Sincerely,

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