



Asian Women In Business

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October 23, 2006

Chairman Kevin Martin
Commissioners Michael Copps
Commissioner Deborah Taylor Tate
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Commissioner Jonathan Adelstein
Commissioner Robert McDowell

Re: WC Docket No. 06-74, Support for AT&T BellSouth Merger

Dear FCC Chairman and Commissioners:

On behalf of Asian Women in Business (AWIB), a not-for-profit membership organization founded in 1995 to assist Asian women to realize their entrepreneurial potential, I support the AT&T-BellSouth proposed merger before you today. My organization and its members know that competition and technology growth can deliver to consumers control, choices, and cost savings.

As you know, a harbinger of economic growth is broadband and technology deployment across the country. Female Asian American entrepreneurs have harnessed technological tools to vault themselves and their businesses to economic success. The more technology makes our lives easier, the more success our community and organization sees within the business community. The AT&T-BellSouth merger will expand this access to entrepreneurs and the business industry alike, and for this reason we urge your prompt consideration and approval.

It's important for our organization to also note the key conditions offered by AT&T. In order for business to thrive in communities across AT&T/BellSouth's new footprint should the merger be approved, access to high speed internet must expand and be affordable. AT&T has pledged to achieve this objective by accelerating their broadband deployment to lower-income and rural locations – the exact area where access is lacking. Additionally, the newly merged company will offer cheaper broadband rates and new DSL modems for current dial-up customers. These initiatives can only be viewed as a win-win for customers and local economies that will experience these new offerings as a result of the merger.

Again, please approve this merger before you today. We thank you for your cooperation and look forward to hearing the results of your proceedings on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bonnie Wong', with a large, stylized flourish extending from the end of the signature.

Bonnie Wong
President