

October 26, 2006

**BY ECFS**

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

Re: AT&T Inc. and BellSouth Corporation Applications for Approval of  
Transfer of Control, WC Docket No. 06-74

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On October 23, 2006, eight Republican Senators wrote to Chairman Martin, urging that the Commission approve the merger of AT&T Inc. and BellSouth Corporation on November 3, 2006. On October 24, 2006, 17 Democratic Members of the House of Representatives representing constituents throughout BellSouth's nine-state region wrote to all five Commissioners, voicing support for and seeking the Commission's expeditious approval of the merger.

AT&T Inc. hereby submits copies of these letters for inclusion in the record of this proceeding.

Sincerely,



Scott Feira  
Counsel for AT&T Inc.

Attachments

cc: Daniel Gonzalez  
Michelle Carey  
Jessica Rosenworcel  
Scott Deutchman  
Scott Bergmann  
Ian Dillner  
Thomas Navin  
Nicholas Alexander  
William Dever  
Donald K. Stockdale, Jr.

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

October 23, 2006

The Honorable Kevin J. Martin  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Martin:

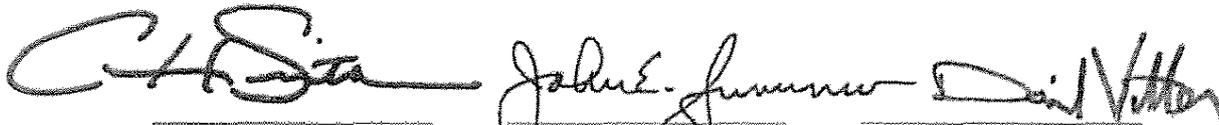
We write to echo the concerns of Chairman Stevens and Chairman Barton about the Commission's failure to act last week on the application for the proposed merger between BellSouth and AT&T.

An application for transfer of control was filed on March 31, 2006, and the Commission has now had nearly six months to review the record of comments from interested parties regarding the proposed merger. On October 11, 2006, the Antitrust Division of the U.S. Department of Justice approved this proposal unconditionally after conducting a thorough investigation of this application. Further, eighteen state public service commissions and three foreign countries have done the same.

We therefore urge the Commission to expeditiously conclude its proceedings on this matter by November 3, 2006.

Sincerely,

  
Jim DeMint      Kay Bailey Hutchison      Trent Lott  
United States Senator      United States Senator      United States Senator

  
Gordon H. Smith      John E. Sununu      David Vitter  
United States Senator      United States Senator      United States Senator

  
Richard C. Shelby      Richard Burr  
United States Senator      United States Senator

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

October 24, 2006

Chairman Kevin Martin  
Commissioner Deborah Taylor Tate  
Commissioner Robert McDowell  
Commissioner Michael Copps  
Commissioner Jonathan Adelstein  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: WC Docket No. 06-74

Dear FCC Commissioners:

As Members of Congress representing tens of thousands of constituents in the nine states that comprise the current BellSouth footprint, we urge you to move expeditiously to resolve the merger of AT&T and BellSouth.

As you know, few sectors of our economy are as dynamic as the telecommunications sector. Markets change rapidly, new technologies and services are developed, and aggressive competitors wage consumer-friendly battles to gain an edge with both current and would-be customers. As new players enter the markets, and existing players adapt to the changing competitive environment, we welcome the FCC's statutory obligation to promote a competitive environment that serves consumers efficiently.

The proposed AT&T-BellSouth merger has the potential to provide significant new benefits for consumers. For example, we understand that AT&T and BellSouth have discussed with the Commission conditions that could substantially increase the extent and quality of services offered to our constituents. First, the newly merged company will offer \$10 broadband access to all new customers within the new footprint. Second, any current AT&T-BellSouth customer using dial-up service will be offered a free upgrade to DSL. Third, "stand-alone" DSL will be offered to customers at a competitive rate, thereby no longer forcing customers to also purchase voice service. Most importantly, AT&T-BellSouth has made a commitment to deploy high-speed Internet service to rural areas and lower-income living units. It is time we bridge the digital divide in these communities and these consumer-focused offerings would go a long way to that end. Additional delay in the FCC's evaluation of the merger could derail implementation of these conditions.

The record before the Commission is extensive and should allow for a timely review and a vote on this matter as currently scheduled on the FCC's docket (DA 06-2035 and WC Docket No. 06-74). Therefore, we urge you to make a decision on this merger by November 3.

Sincerely,

  
Robert E. "Bud" Cramer  
Member of Congress

  
Artur Davis  
Member of Congress

  
F. Allen Boyd, Jr.  
Member of Congress

  
Alcee L. Hastings  
Member of Congress

  
Kendrick B. Meek  
Member of Congress

  
Robert I. Wexler  
Member of Congress

  
Sanford Bishop, Jr.  
Member of Congress

  
David Scott  
Member of Congress

  
Ben Chandler  
Member of Congress

  
Bennie G. Thompson  
Member of Congress

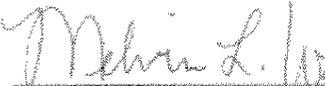
  
Lincoln Davis  
Member of Congress

  
Harold E. Ford, Jr.  
Member of Congress

  
Bart Gordon  
Member of Congress

  
Brad Miller  
Member of Congress

  
Debbie Wasserman Schultz  
Member of Congress

  
Melvin L. Watt  
Member of Congress

  
John Barrow  
Member of Congress