

December 12, 2006

Chairman Kevin Martin  
Commissioner Jonathan Adelstein  
Commissioner Michael Copps  
Commissioner Robert McDowell  
Commissioner Deborah Taylor Tate

Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554



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Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653

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(606) 789-5632

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

Dear FCC Chairman & Commissioners:

As the FCC impasse regarding the merger of AT&T and BellSouth persists, the United Way of Eastern Kentucky encourages you to pass this merger at your next meeting. We have continued to support the deal since it came under FCC review, but it is now time to act.

The United Way is committed to substantially improving the quality of life for community residents from all walks of life. While telecommunications and Internet access have become a vital part of life for millions, too many are left behind. It is this digital divide that impedes the progress of many low income and disadvantaged individuals and families.

Should AT&T and BellSouth be permitted to merge, it would be a sign of movement in the right direction. With promises of broadband connection for more consumers – and connection at a much more affordable \$10 per month – Internet access can become a reality for many more people across the country. We look to gain from this opportunity and begin to close the gap.

We can do so with your help. Let's allow the process to move forward.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pamela Compton".

Pamela Compton, Executive Director  
United Way of Eastern Kentucky