



Sprint Nextel
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Anna M. Gomez
Vice President – Government Affairs,
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September 26, 2007

Via Electronic Submission

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W., Room TW-A325
Washington, DC 20554

**Re: *Ex Parte Communication*
Special Access Rates for Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers, WC Docket No.
05-25**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On September 25, 2007, Gary Forsee, Chief Executive Officer, Sprint Nextel, met with Chairman Kevin J. Martin. Mr. Forsee discussed issues consistent with Sprint Nextel's comments in the above docket. Specifically, he stated that Sprint Nextel supports deregulation where a market is competitive, such as the retail wireless and retail long distance markets. The special access market, however, is unique in that it is a market failure, which requires governmental intervention. The special access overcharges imposed by incumbent local exchange carriers present a significant competitive issue, made worse by the consolidation of the two largest local exchange, wireless and long distance providers, AT&T and Verizon.

In response to a question regarding whether the Xohm network may attract more alternative special access providers to its fourth-generation cell sites, Mr. Forsee explained that, even if it does, special access to the Xohm cell sites will represent a small percentage of Sprint Nextel's total special access needs. With Sprint Nextel relying on the incumbent local exchange carriers for more than 95 percent of its iDEN, CDMA and EvDO cell sites, any competitive providers attracted to the Xohm network will diminish slightly Sprint Nextel's total reliance on the incumbent local exchange carriers. Furthermore, deployment of competitive alternatives will take place over a long period of time. That is why the Commission needs to act today.

To ensure that Sprint Nextel can continue to compete vigorously against AT&T and Verizon in a robust and effective manner, the Commission must discipline these special access overcharges. Mr. Forsee therefore urged the Commission to implement meaningful relief from

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high special access charges by adopting the proposed remedies Sprint Nextel set forth in its comments.

Pursuant to Section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, a copy of this letter is being filed electronically in the above-referenced docket.

Sincerely,

/s/ Anna M. Gomez
Anna M. Gomez

Cc: Chairman Kevin J. Martin