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Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
12th Street Lobby, TW-A325
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: *Ex Parte Presentation*
PS Docket No. 07-287—The Commercial Mobile Alert System**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

AT&T would like to echo the message delivered to the Commission on March 3, 2008 by CTIA-The Wireless Association® regarding the comments submitted by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (“FEMA”) in the above-captioned proceeding. In that February 19, 2008, *ex parte* letter, FEMA advised the Commission that the agency lacked “authority during non-emergency periods to develop, implement, operate, or maintain elements of the CMAS [Commercial Mobile Alert System] that regard alerts, warnings, or notifications originated by State and Local authorities, such as the Aggregator and Gateway functions and the Trust Model of the CMAS.”¹

As a key stakeholder in the Commercial Mobile Service Alert Advisory Committee (“CMSAAC”) process, AT&T strongly recommends the adoption of the CMSAAC recommendations in whole, as we noted in our comments and reply comments in this proceeding. AT&T also reminds the Commission that the CMAS Aggregator and Gateway functions, as well as the Trust Model, are indispensable elements in the successful development and deployment of the CMAS. Absent a Federal agency overseeing these key elements in the overall CMAS structure, the viability of CMAS itself is gravely impaired.

As CTIA noted in its *ex parte* letter, should FEMA be unwilling or unable to participate in the implementation and operation of the CMAS, AT&T supports the adoption of these essential functions by another appropriate Federal agency. Regardless of the actual agency ultimately tasked with this responsibility, it is imperative that the CMSAAC recommendations be adopted as submitted to the Commission. FEMA’s apparent reluctance to discharge these duties does not and should not justify any modifications to the CMSAAC’s thoughtful and thorough consideration of the issues associated with prompt CMAS deployment.

¹ See Letter to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, from Martha Rainville, Assistant Administrator, Office of National Continuity Programs, FEMA, PS Docket No. 07-287, dated Feb. 19, 2008.

AT&T is moving forward with CMAS development plans on the basis of the CMSAAC recommendations, as are other members of the wireless industry. FEMA's concern for the limits of its statutory authority should not in any way be allowed to disrupt those efforts.

Pursuant to Section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, a copy of this letter is being filed via ECFS for inclusion in the above-referenced docket. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

/s/ James Bugel

James Bugel

Executive Director—Federal Regulatory

cc: Derek Poarch
Jeffery Goldthorp
Kenneth Moran
Lisa Fowlkes