

North Carolina Association of Community College Presidents

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

July 10, 2008

Re: WT Docket 08-94
North Carolina Association of Community College Presidents
Sprint Nextel Corporation And Clearwire Corporation Seek FCC Consent to Transfer
Control of Licenses And Authorizations

Dear Ms. Dortch:

The North Carolina Association of Community College Presidents (“NCACCP”), file these Comments in support of the Sprint Nextel Corporation (“Sprint”) and Clearwire Corporation (“Clearwire”) (collectively, “the Applicants”) applications seeking Commission approval of the transfer of control of licenses, authorizations, and de facto transfer spectrum leases held by Sprint and Clearwire to a new wireless broadband company called Clearwire Corporation (“New Clearwire”).

The NCACCP includes the presidents of the 58 community colleges in North Carolina. Collectively, these colleges hold EBS licenses in all channel groups and in all geographic service areas (GSA’s) in North Carolina. The colleges have entered into excess capacity lease agreements with Clearwire for these EBS channels, and, therefore, support efforts by Clearwire to implement wireless broadband networks through the State of North Carolina and the United States as rapidly as possible.

The NCACCP supports the application of Sprint and Clearwire for the following reasons:

- New Clearwire will accelerate the deployment of the first nationwide mobile WiMAX broadband network creating a unique opportunity to deliver new broadband products and services in the 2.5 GHz band that will dramatically enhance the way that EBS Licensee’s students, faculty and surrounding community access the Internet- combining mobility and speed, with access anytime and anywhere, whether at home, at school or on the road.
- The transaction will substantially benefit the EBS community, as it will enable the 2.5 GHz spectrum Clearwire leases from EBS Licensees to be developed more rapidly into this nationwide advanced mobile broadband network, enabling EBS licensees to finally obtain the full benefits of 2.5 GHz-based advanced wireless broadband services to further their educational mission as well as economic benefits from their spectrum leases.

- The Transaction will enable EBS License holders to have their 2.5 GHz EBS spectrum Licenses that are leased to Clearwire to become part of this advanced transformational nationwide broadband network capable of providing a multitude of new educational resources which it might not otherwise have the benefit of being part of as no other provider at 2.5 is planning or even contemplating such a nationwide mobile network.
- The Transaction enables Clearwire to receive essential capital funding--\$3.2 billion - necessary to build and operate the critical broadband infrastructure needed to deploy the next-generation nationwide mobile wireless broadband services that will benefit the educational community and for which neither Sprint Nextel nor Clearwire alone possesses sufficient financial or spectrum resources to deploy alone.
- New Clearwire will have the capacity, scale, and money necessary to unleash the promise of the historically underutilized 2.5 GHz spectrum to the benefit of the educational community, consumers, and businesses.
- Combining Clearwire and Sprint Nextel's 2.5 GHz spectrum licenses maximizes spectrum build-out capability in EBS Licensee's GSAs by minimizing challenging network deployment and operational effects arising from the 2.5 GHz's bands unique and varied historical service and licensing schemes.

Expeditious FCC approval is an essential condition precedent to New Clearwire's ability to get the capital funding necessary to deploy the 2.5 GHz nationwide mobile WiMAX network that will enable EBS licensees and their surrounding communities to obtain the substantial public interest and educational benefits from a nationwide mobile WiMAX network in the 2.5 GHz band.

For these and other reasons, we support the de facto transfer of spectrum leases held by Sprint and Clearwire to Clearwire Corporation (New Clearwire).

Patricia Skinner, President
North Carolina Association of Community College Presidents

Michael Taylor
Chair, EBS Community College Consortium