



Archdiocese of Los Angeles

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July 24, 2008

**VIA ELECTRONIC FILING**

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

RE: Applications of Sprint Nextel Corporation and Clearwire Corporation For Consent to Transfer Control of Licenses and Authorizations (WT Docket No. 08-94)

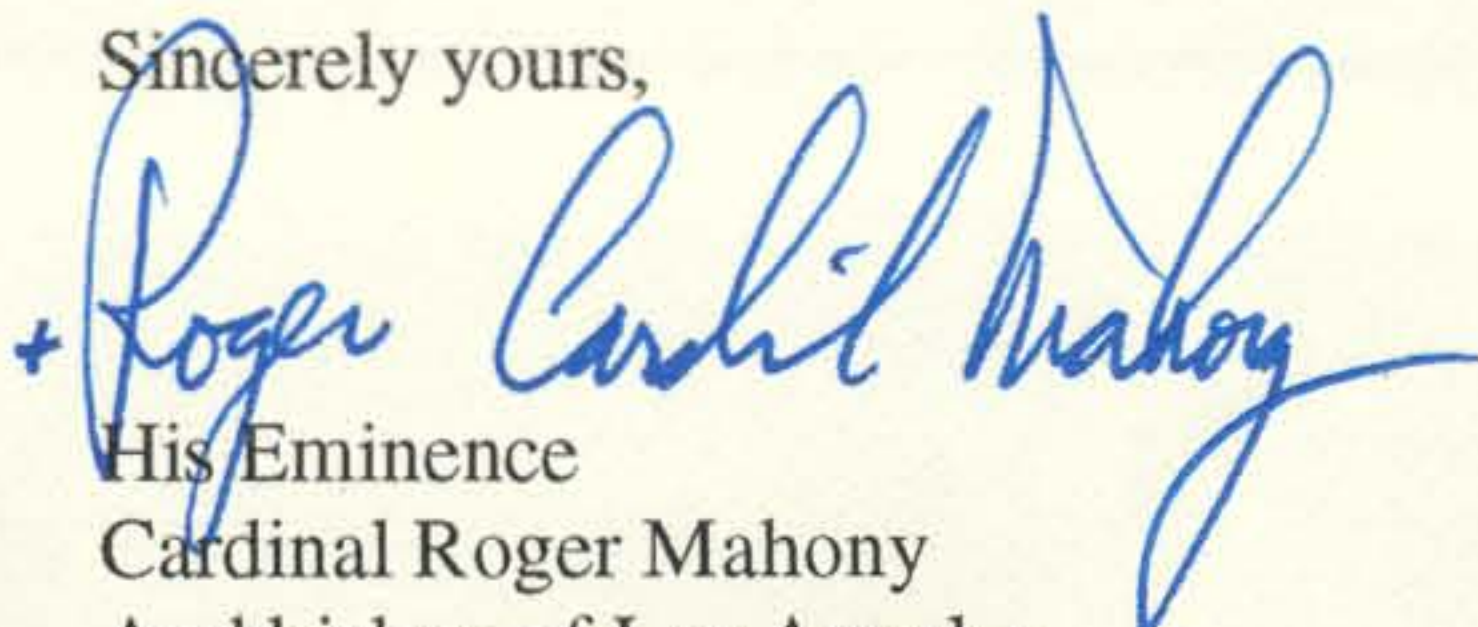
Dear Ms. Dortch:

I am writing to support approval of the above-referenced transaction between Clearwire Corporation and Sprint Nextel Corporation to create a new, independent nationwide wireless broadband company that will retain the Clearwire name ("New Clearwire").

The Archdiocese of Los Angeles ("Archdiocese") serves a population of over five million people in three Southern California counties covering approximately 8,000 square miles, and has been using Educational Broadband Service ("EBS") frequencies in the 2.5 GHz band to provide educational programming to its schools since 1967. The Archdiocese recently made the decision to optimize use of its spectrum by transitioning from a one-way video broadcast model to a two-way digital broadband model that will provide pastoral and educational communications for parishes as well as schools. A spectrum lease agreement was executed with Clearwire Corporation in 2006, which will allow the Archdiocese to provide wireless broadband internet access, video conferencing, VoIP telephony and other telecommunications services to meet the educational needs of its students, teachers, clergy, and parishioners well into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The broadband networks to be built by Clearwire are essential to the Archdiocese's future telecommunications plans and needs, and we are depending on the build-out to occur soon.

It is my understanding that the transaction will result in an overall enterprise that will have the capacity, scale, and financial resources necessary to fully realize the potential of the 2.5 GHz band for the benefit of educators, consumers, and businesses alike. This will help the Archdiocese and all EBS licensees maximize the value of their spectrum assets. I take a personal interest in the development of new technology and believe this transaction will serve the public interest by stimulating innovation and promoting competition among broadband carriers. Accordingly, the Archdiocese urges the Commission to approve the New Clearwire transaction as expeditiously as possible.

Sincerely yours,

  
His Eminence  
Cardinal Roger Mahony  
Archbishop of Los Angeles