

MICHIGAN  
CHAMBER  
OF  
COMMERCE

July 28, 2008

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

Received & Inspected

AUG 06 2008

FCC Mail Room

*In the matter of Verizon Wireless/ Alltel Corporation Transfer of Control Applications,  
WT Docket No. 08-95*

Dear Ms. Dortch:

The planned merger of Verizon Wireless and Alltel Corporation will create a consumer-friendly alliance that can bring more competition to the wireless market and provide customers with a wider range of choices and better service. The Michigan Chamber of Commerce supports this endeavor and asks for FCC approval as quickly as possible.

It is important that the government does everything in its power to support increased availability of modern communications services. A report released by the CTIA – the Wireless Association found that wireless broadband and mobile voice services will add \$860 billion to our nation's GDP over the next 10 years. The Verizon Wireless/Alltel collaboration will help spread the power of wireless to more people in more parts of the country.

We understand that Verizon Wireless is willing and able to invest in Alltel's rural network facilities, providing tools such as high-speed broadband to families and businesses that currently go without access. Broadband can bring economic vitality, modern health care services and educational opportunities to rural residents that will enable them to become more productive and improve the quality of their lives.

Allying with Verizon Wireless will give Alltel customers in Michigan and all across the country access to a strong, trusted wireless network. They will be included in the deployment of the fourth generation wireless services that Verizon Wireless is currently bringing to market.

Alltel customers will also benefit from the Verizon Open Development Initiative, which nurtures the growth and implementation of state-of-the-art communications services and devices.

Sanctioning this merger will give consumers more communications choices, better prices and more reliable service. The job of our Chamber is to improve the business climate and move Michigan forward in the process. We believe that this merger will do both of those, and thus, the Michigan Chamber of Commerce urges the FCC to grant approval without delay.

Sincerely,

  
Richard K. Studley  
President & CEO

RKS/plf

No. of Copies rec'd 0  
L: ABCDE