



Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C. 20554

July 2, 2009

The Honorable Gwen S. Moore  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1239 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Moore:

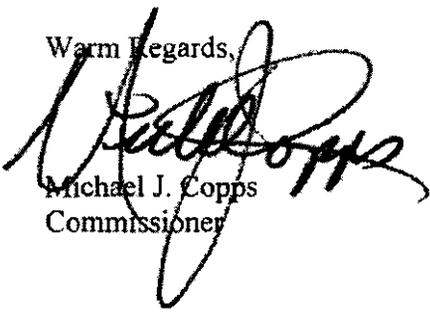
Thank you for your letter regarding Verizon Wireless's proposed transfer of certain assets that it has been required to divest pursuant to the Commission's *Verizon-ALLTEL Order*. In your letter, you express a number of concerns about Verizon Wireless transferring these assets to AT&T instead of to small, independent, or economically disadvantaged, entities.

On June 19, 2009, the Commission's Wireless Telecommunications Bureau issued a Public Notice seeking comment on the applications of Verizon Wireless and AT&T for Commission approval of the proposed assignment of licenses and authorizations from Verizon Wireless to AT&T. In particular, this proposed transaction would involve the transfer of assets relating to 79 of the 105 markets that Verizon Wireless was required to divest pursuant to the *Verizon-ALLTEL Order*. Petitions to deny and comments on these applications are due by July 20. In addition, Verizon Wireless has announced its intention to transfer to Atlantic Tele-  
Network, Inc., the remaining licenses that it was required to divest in the *Verizon-ALLTEL Order*. The applications seeking Commission consent to the latter proposed transaction were only recently filed, and have not yet been placed on public notice for comment.

In reviewing these assignment applications, the Commission will evaluate the proposed sale of the Verizon Wireless divestiture licenses and authorizations to AT&T and Atlantic Tele-  
Network to determine whether they will serve the public interest, convenience, and necessity. Let me assure you that I intend to carefully review the applications and the record in this proceeding to ensure that the proposed transactions comply with the Commission's statutory mandate to promote competition and manage the spectrum in the public interest. This will include a thorough review of the issues raised in any petitions and comments filed regarding the assignment applications – including the concerns raised in your letter, which will of course be placed in the record of this proceeding.

I hope that you find this information helpful. I have forwarded your letter to Chairman Genachowski to apprise him of your concern about this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions or would like any additional information.

Warm Regards,

  
Michael J. Copps  
Commissioner