

March 17, 2011

Ex Parte Notice

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

Re: *Implementation of Section 224 of the Act, WC Docket No. 07-245; A National Broadband Plan for Our Future, GN Docket No. 09-51*

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Attached for the record in this docket is the Declaration of Mark Whitlock. Mr. Whitlock is a Development Manager in T-Mobile's Salt Lake City market. In that capacity, he has handled siting and pole attachments for T-Mobile in Utah. Before joining T-Mobile in 2000, Mr. Whitlock was Senior Right of Way Agent for PacifiCorp (d/b/a Utah Power & Light in the state of Utah, now known as Rocky Mountain Power). In that capacity, he negotiated pole attachment agreements between Utah Power & Light and wireless carriers.

In his declaration, Mr. Whitlock describes how wireless pole attachments, including pole tops, help T-Mobile increase coverage and capacity, including in areas where there is no other alternative. He also addresses the direct impact that the Utah Public Service Commission's adoption of timelines had on the speed of the pole attachment licensing process in Utah. Instead of taking an average of a year for a wireless pole attachment to be licensed and installed, it now can be completed in three to four months, even when a change out of the existing pole is necessary.

Mr. Whitlock also refutes allegations that wireless pole attachments, particularly pole top attachments, are unsafe. The attachments he has been involved with complied with the National Electric Safety Code ("NESC"), the National Electrical Code ("NEC"), the Telcordia Blue Book – Manual of Construction Procedures, as well as other applicable engineering and construction standards for the attachment of wireless equipment. In addition, governing Occupational Safety and Health Administration ("OSHA") requirements were satisfied. In his 13 years of experience deploying wireless facilities on utility distribution poles, Mr. Whitlock is not aware of any instances of antennas falling onto power lines or causing other safety concerns. He also states that T-Mobile uses only highly-qualified, professional technicians and contractors to construct and maintain its attached facilities, and T-Mobile has an adequate number of qualified workers to safely maintain its attached facilities.

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Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



John T. Nakahata
Counsel to T-Mobile USA, Inc.

cc: Zachary Katz
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Attachment