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C A P I T A L

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May 27, 2011

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St. SW
Washington, DC 20554

(Reference the 11-65 proceeding regarding AT&T's application to acquire T-Mobile)

Dear FCC Commissioners:

Even going back to the days of rural electrification, rural North Carolina has never had an offer of practical technology deployment like the one presented in the AT&T/ T-Mobile merger. AT&T's offer to blanket the whole state with access to advanced wireless broadband would rescue underserved rural communities from their status as broadband backwaters.

If the merger is approved and the 4G long term evolution wireless broadband deployment is made, these communities would be offered state of the art broadband. Small towns left in economic limbo by the closing of textile and furniture manufacturers could have a new lease on life as venues for high-tech industries. North Carolina has the will and the workers. What we lack are the jobs. 4G capacity would give us the potential to create new jobs and attract them in from out-of-state.

With unemployment currently at 9.7 percent, the people and businesses of North Carolina would welcome the economic stimulus of the investment AT&T is willing to make.

Approval of the merger and the subsequent introduction of 4G LTE technology would not build a new economy by themselves. They would, however, put an effective tool into the hands of people eager to get on with that job. North Carolina is not unique among states in the economic benefits it would derive from the merger. For the sake of the whole country I urge you to approve it.

Respectfully yours,

Peter Reichard,
Managing Director