

Connecting North Carolina to a Better Future

Oppie N. Jordan
Chair

May 19, 2011

George Bakolia

John Bardo

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

J. Keith Crisco

Craig Fowler

Dear Commissioners:

The Honorable
Stanley H. Fox

The e-NC Authority exists to bridge the gap between under-served areas of North Carolina and the broadband capacity they need to be part of the digital future. Working closely with private providers, the federal government and state agencies, we are actively working to help North Carolina be part of meeting the FCC goal of universal broadband by 2014.

Reba Green-Holley

Billy Ray Hall

The Honorable
Foyle Hightower, Jr.

As technology continues to raise the standards for what constitutes adequate broadband capacity, it only underscores the need to see that underserved areas catch up with the rest of the state. Given our goals, we are very encouraged by the prospect that all of North Carolina could gain access to 4G LTE wireless broadband at essentially the same time if the AT&T/T-Mobile merger is permitted to take place.

Karl Knapp

Melinda Lawrence

Kevin McCarter

In fact, when we review the maps for the proposed AT&T/T-Mobile merger, we find that it will be a competitor with the Verizon mobile wireless. That competition will be a good thing for NC citizens and businesses.

Paul Tine

Rebecca Troutman

While we appreciate the national implications of the pledge by AT&T to invest \$8 billion to provide 4G LTE to 97 percent or more of the U.S. population, our focus is the positive ramifications this investment and commitment will yield North Carolina.

Tom Vanderbeck

We feel an obligation to express support for this merger and its potential results. We hope it will have your support as well.

Jane Smith Patterson
Executive Director

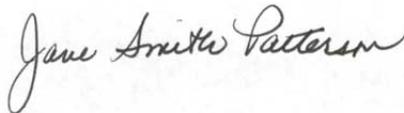
Thank You.

Sincerely,

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