



# Texas Rural Education Association

WEBSITE: [WWW.TXREA.COM](http://WWW.TXREA.COM)

Federal Communications Commission  
c/o Marlene Dortch, Secretary  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

May 31, 2011

## WT 11-65

*In the Matter of applications of  
AT&T Inc. and Deutsche Telekom  
AG for consent to assign or Transfer  
Control of licenses and Authorizations*

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners:

In this day and age there is nothing more important than providing our children with a high quality education. After all, the American children of today are the American leaders of tomorrow. The fact that so many other countries are beating the United States in terms of international test scores is unacceptable. We need to do everything in our power to increase the quality of education that our children are getting, especially in the realm of utilizing modern technological advancements.

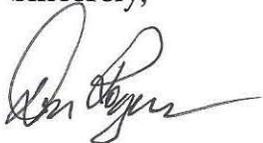
The proposed merger between AT&T and T-Mobile will help to spread high speed wireless internet access to the farthest reaches of the country. While AT&T's advanced wireless cell service was previously only available in highly populated urban areas, it will now be available to almost every American citizen. This is most important for our rural schools that will finally have the ability to hook up to this vital high speed broadband network.

Texas has many rural and remote communities. In these areas, schools are forced to operate with whatever dated technologies are available. Slow dial-up internet and expanses of land that are cellular "black out" zones are not uncommon in these areas. For modern schools, this is unacceptable. All children, regardless of location, should be able to take advantage of the most modern and state of the art teaching tools. These factors can make all the difference in a child's education and they deserve the best that we can provide.

AT&T has shown the ability and the initiative to deliver high-speed broadband to schools across the country. I can speak personally for rural schools in Texas when I say that we need this merger. A mind is a terrible thing to waste, and this merger will ensure that every Texan mind will be learning and performing at maximum capacity.

Please carefully consider all of the factors surrounding this merger. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Don Rogers", with a long, sweeping underline.

Dr. Don Rogers

Executive Director

Texas Rural Education Association