

Critique Against Verizon SpectrumCo

Steven K. Berry, president and CEO of the Rural Cellular Association - which counts Sprint and T-Mobile as its members - said the arrangement was "contrived [and] difficult to deconstruct."

"This is about control of the market share and the deal is effectively a non-compete agreement," Berry continued. "This is the equivalent of eliminating a national carrier in the market."

"America's competitive telecom policies should not be relegated to the mantra, 'if you can't beat 'em, join 'em,'" Berry insisted.

[Sprint](#) and [T-Mobile](#) have both asked regulators to stop the deal.

While spectrum might seem like a rather boring topic to the average consumer, its availability could eventually have an impact on how well your mobile devices work. At this point, the wireless carriers have enough spectrum to keep their networks running, but they argue that with more and more people picking up smartphones and other data-hungry devices like tablets, that bandwidth is running low. Milch said today that Verizon could be hit by the spectrum crunch as early as 2013 without the spectrum provided by the cable deal.