

Good news the FCC has reportedly agreed to allow the application of AT&T to transfer AWS spectrum licenses to T-Mobile USA. Last March when AT&T and T-Mobile made their merger agreement AT&T Mobility had promised to transfer a big chunk of their AWS spectrum licenses to T-Mobile if the deal fell through. The approved transaction involved a \$3 billion cash infusion by AT&T into T-Mobile (financial investment by AT&T into its rival) and a \$1 billion AWS spectrum transfer to T-Mobile USA. Unlike the AT&T T-Mobile merger this deal had no significant anti-competitive impact and the spectrum transfer and cash infusion will give T-Mobile the resources to transition its existing HSPA+ 4G network to 4G LTE. I applaud the Commission for approving this spectrum transfer and urge the FCC to enact strong 700 MHz Interoperability rules (12-69) as soon as possible. Also enact strong AWS Service Rules favoring interoperability between different AWS bands would be nice (12-70). Lastly, I know the FCC gave AT&T a consolation prize after denying the merger (11-65) in the form of unused 700 MHz Qualcomm wireless spectrum (11-18) which some suggest as evidence for Verizon SpectrumCo approval (12-4) but Verizon's deals should be denied.