

Why Some Think Verizon's AWS Swap with T-Mobile is a good thing but others disagree

Given that the FCC wants a healthy T-Mobile since it scuttled the carrier's merger plans with AT&T in the name of competition, the Verizon proposal seems like a fair trade.

For wireless services buyers, the Verizon-T-Mobile deal works out. Verizon gets its spectrum and helps out T-Mobile's network. T-Mobile has the potential to be disruptive on wireless pricing.

However, the Alliance for Broadband Competition wasn't as impressed.

As the Alliance has maintained from the onset, the proposed transaction between Verizon and Cable is about far more than spectrum. The deal is a far-reaching non-compete agreement between two huge competitors. While it's nice that Verizon will cede a small portion of its vast spectrum holdings to T-Mobile, that does nothing to mitigate the fact that Verizon and Cable want to stop competing, stop investing, and stop innovating to the great detriment of consumers and the American economy. Our position remains the same: we urge the DoJ and FCC to continue their thorough examination of these agreements to ensure a competitive telecommunications industry.