

AT&T Says Its Interested In Verizon's Unused 700 MHz Spectrum

Speaking at a conference this week, AT&T CEO Randall Stephenson indicated strong interest in the 700MHz spectrum that Verizon has **offered to sell**

(<http://www.theverge.com/2011/12/20/2649490/verizon-spectrumco-comcast-time-warner-bright-house-deal>) on the condition that it be

allowed to **buy SpectrumCo's AWS holdings**

(<http://www.theverge.com/2011/12/20/2649490/verizon-spectrumco-comcast-time-warner-bright-house-deal>) — a controversial purchase

that's been questioned by the FCC, Congress, and other carriers in recent weeks. He said that the offering "pairs perfectly" with AT&T's own spectrum and that it could "be up and running and hot" inside of 60 days of sale, which is just about as close to a stamp of approval on a competitor's strategic move as you're going to get. Of course, it stands to reason that a lack of government intervention on Verizon's part sets an important precedent for AT&T's strategic maneuvers and vice versa, which also explains why Verizon was largely silent throughout AT&T's attempted purchase of T-Mobile USA last year.

Whether the feds ultimately approve the SpectrumCo transaction remains unclear, but if Stephenson's words have any effect on their decision whatsoever, it seems obvious that AT&T should be held accountable for placing a bid and utilizing the spectrum within the time frame he suggests — especially since **he's suggested the same**.

([http://www.fiercewireless.com/story/atts-stephenson-calls-use-it-or-lose-it-provisions-spectrum/2012-06-](http://www.fiercewireless.com/story/atts-stephenson-calls-use-it-or-lose-it-provisions-spectrum/2012-06-11?utm_campaign=TwitterEditor-FierceWireless)

[11?utm_campaign=TwitterEditor-FierceWireless](http://www.fiercewireless.com/story/atts-stephenson-calls-use-it-or-lose-it-provisions-spectrum/2012-06-11?utm_campaign=TwitterEditor-FierceWireless)) AT&T's proposed use it or lose it provision in retrospect sounds like a great idea and its stunning to hear it coming from AT&T – why would they support let alone propose this – it sounds good for consumers but not for them.