

In the Matter of Applications of AT&T and Deutsche Telekom AG to transfer T-Mobile Spectrum Licenses to AT&T (11-65), AT&T Mobility & Qualcomm Seek FCC consent to assignment of lower 700 MHz licenses (11-18), T-Mobile License LLC, AT&T Mobility Spectrum, and New Cingular Wireless PCS Seek FCC Consent For Assignment of AWA-1 Licenses (12-21) Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Seeks Comments on State of Wireless Competition (11-186) and Verizon SpectrumCo/Cox Applications (12-4) Service Rules for Auction 901 (12-25)

I applaud the FCC and Justice Department for again blocking the anti-competitive AT&T T-Mobile merger last year which led to AT&T's eventual decision to abandon the takeover. I also request the license transfer to T-Mobile be approved. However, even maintaining what little competition exists in the wireless market is insufficient. In 1997 amid SBC Communications attempt then to re-merge with AT&T Corp., then FCC Chairman Reed Hundt rightly called the proposed deal unthinkable. Yet under the Bush Administration the deal was approved. A wireless divestiture is needed of AT&T Inc., and Verizon Communications now.

In 1984 Ma Bell agreed to breakup in exchange for regulatory permission to enter the computer equipment business. That breakup led to greater competition and consumer choice in the period the Baby Bells remained separate. Worse since Ma Bell has been put back together they merged with AT&T Wireless which in turn merged with Cingular Wireless and Dobson Wireless to form AT&T Mobility a subsidiary of the new AT&T Inc.

AT&T Inc., was of course formed by merging SBC Communications and BellSouth with AT&T Corp. The combined company is threatening universal service for basic phone service, discriminating against competing services online and has to be stopped. Don't allow anymore monopolization by AT&T or Verizon. Recommend wireless divestitures of AT&T Inc., and Verizon Communications be made to Congress and the Department of Justice which would see

AT&T and Verizon's fixed land-line (wire-line) businesses rightly separated from their wireless businesses so their wire-line units have more incentive to compete with big cable companies and continue to provide service. As such AT&T and Verizon are more interested lately in the wireless market and are trying to find ways to abandon the land-line market. Verizon Wireless now wants regulatory permission to buy wireless spectrum from a consortium of cable companies called SpectrumCo which consists of Time Warner Cable, Comcast and Bright House Networks plus the company Cox Communications and at the same time has entered into anti competitive marketing agreements with these companies to resell each other's services in violation of the Telecom Act.

Instead of allowing the Verizon SpectrumCo and Cox applications the FCC and Justice Department should take action to protect both wire-line and wireless competition by both denying these transactions and requiring wireless divestitures of both AT&T Inc., and Verizon Communications. AT&T and Verizon should be expressly forbidden from acquiring anymore spectrum given the massive amount of spectrum they both already hold. This includes forbidding them from participating if at all possible in upcoming spectrum auctions and if impossible makes the spectrum auction awards proportional instead of winner takes all to give smaller competitors a chance to acquire more spectrum.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this matter.

Sincerely,

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