

**Communications
Workers of America
AFL-CIO, CLC**

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Larry Cohen
President

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JUL 12 2012

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

June 28, 2012

The Honorable Julius Genachowski, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

On Friday, June 22, T-Mobile USA closed seven call centers that employed 3,300 people. The loss of these jobs will cause untold hardship for workers, their families, and their communities.

Very late last week, Verizon announced that T-Mobile would buy Verizon spectrum in the event that the Federal Communications Commission approves the Verizon-Cable transaction. In exchange, T-Mobile dropped their opposition to the transaction.

At the same time, Verizon has put on hold its investment in high speed fiber to the home as it seeks a joint marketing agreement with Comcast and the cable industry. If successful, it will be the end of their investment in fiber.

These three developments are closely linked, and all point to the failure of the FCC to pursue jobs as a critical public interest goal.

The Obama administration has made clear its commitment to expanding good jobs here in the U.S. The FCC, in its consideration of the Comcast, et.al./Verizon Joint Operating Entity, has a record which we believe demonstrates that the main effect of the commercial agreements will be to end investment by Verizon in its landline network and kill jobs.

Without high speed landline networks, wireless networks cannot succeed. Encouraging Verizon's abandonment of landline investment and the job and economic losses that will result is bad public policy. It's the wrong decision for jobs, as well as for the build out of high speed networks.

Your focus on wireless competition and preserving T-Mobile USA as a viable independent competitor has led to job loss. As you know, CWA had sought to help resolve T-Mobile USA's business challenges by supporting the merger with AT&T. In the course of the merger review, AT&T made two significant job commitments. First, no AT&T or T-Mobile employee, not one, would lose a job as a result of the merger. Second, AT&T would return 5,000 offshored call center jobs to the United States. In

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stopping the AT&T/T-Mobile merger, the FCC said it was saving jobs, yet the real result is that 3,300 call center employees lost their jobs and we haven't seen the last of job cuts at T-Mobile USA, according to the company.

The U.S. economy will never recover if companies like T-Mobile USA shutter U.S. call centers while keeping and expanding their offshored facilities.

The U.S. economy will never recover if companies like Verizon stop investing in fiber networks.

The FCC must consider jobs as it considers the Comcast, et.al./Verizon Joint Operating Entity which will stifle investment and result in more job loss.

We expect the Obama administration to stand with us.

Sincerely,



Larry Cohen
President

c: President Barack Obama