



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

December 10, 2012

The Honorable Julius Genachowski, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: WT Docket No. 12-301

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

I am aware that the Federal Communications Commission is reviewing the proposed merger between T-Mobile USA and MetroPCS.

T-Mobile is a major employer in Tampa, Florida. T-Mobile operates a call center and nine retail stores, employing about 550 workers. T-Mobile employees' wages and purchases generate more than \$55 million in economic activity in Tampa, and contribute significant tax revenues to support critical public services. As Tampa recovers from the recent recession, we cannot afford to lose these jobs.

I have been advised that MetroPCS outsources all its call centers, some located overseas. T-Mobile recently closed seven U.S. call centers and displaced 3,300 employees, while contracting with offshore call centers to perform similar work. T-Mobile and MetroPCS have announced anticipated \$6-7 billion in merger-related savings, including customer support.

These facts raise concerns about the employment future of T-Mobile workers in my city. Our city cannot afford a merged T-Mobile/MetroPCS which closes its call center and retail stores here, and transfers the work to MetroPCS' call center vendor, or to one of T-Mobile's overseas operations.

T-Mobile's CEO describes this merger as a growth and opportunity story. Workers in my city can help the company use this merger to improve the customer experience, build for growth, and create jobs in this country. I look to your agency to ensure that the proposed merger provides opportunity for growth for the workers of T-Mobile as well as for the shareholders and executives.

Sincerely,

Bob Buckhorn