

April 16, 2014

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: GN Docket No. 12-353, Comment Sought on the Technological Transition of the Nation's Communications Infrastructure; GN Docket No. 13-5, Technology Transitions Policy Task Force Notice of *Ex Parte* Meeting

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On April 14, 2014, Jodie Griffin, Senior Staff Attorney of Public Knowledge (PK) spoke with Matthew DelNero, Deputy Chief of the Wireline Competition Bureau by phone.

Public Knowledge urged the Commission to grant Public Knowledge and the National Consumer Law Center's request to require AT&T to make public the timeline of AT&T's proposed network transition trials and the planned deployment information AT&T disclosed to the trade publication TR Daily.¹ Public Knowledge emphasized how important it is for stakeholders to know when the trials will start and stop to give meaningful input on AT&T's proposal.

The Commission is just beginning the process of its technology transition trials, and it should be mindful of the fact that the way it conducts its evaluation of AT&T's proposal could have an impact on future trial proposals as well. For this reason the Commission should be especially sure to protect the public's right to engage in the discussion about these trials.

Public Knowledge also urged the Commission to reach a decision on PK and NCLC's confidentiality challenge as soon as is reasonably possible. Public Knowledge noted that during the Commission's review of the spectrum transfer, joint venture, and joint marketing deals between Verizon, Comcast, and other cable companies, the Commission granted in part a confidentiality challenge filed by Public Knowledge, but only did so two days before the Commission issued its final order in the proceeding (and just under three and a half months after Public Knowledge had filed its challenge).² When the Commission decreases the level of

¹ See Challenge to Confidentiality Designation of Public Knowledge and the National Consumer Law Center, on Behalf of Its Low-Income Clients, *Technology Transitions*, GN Docket No. 13-5, *AT&T Petition to Launch a Proceeding Concerning the TDM-to-IP Transition*, GN Docket No. 12-353 (Apr. 8, 2014).

² See *Applications of Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless and SpectrumCo LLC and Cox TMI, LLC For Consent To Assign AWS-1 Licenses*, WT Docket No. 12-4, *Applications of T-Mobile License LLC and Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless for Consent to Assign Licenses*, WT Docket No. 12-175, Order (rel. Aug. 21, 2012); *Applications of Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless and SpectrumCo LLC and Cox TMI, LLC For*

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protection over materials so close to the end of the proceeding, there is no meaningful time for parties who did not already have access to the materials to review and comment on them, so the purpose of increasing public engagement in the process is stymied. Therefore, PK urged the Commission to rule on its confidentiality challenge with time for other parties to meaningfully review and comment on any information made available before the Commission takes action on AT&T's trial proposal.

In accordance with Section 1.1206(b) of the Commission's rules, this letter is being filed with your office. If you have any further questions, please contact me at (202) 861-0020.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Jodie Griffin
Senior Staff Attorney
PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE