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verizon wireless

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April 12, 2001

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 – 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Ex Parte Presentation:
ET Docket No. 00-258, CC Docket No. 92-105,
CC Docket No. 99-200, WT Docket No. 01-14, WT Docket 01-72

Dear Ms. Salas:

On April 11, 2001, the attached letter was sent to Thomas Sugrue, Chief of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau. In accordance with Section 1.1206 of the Commission's Rules, ten copies of this letter are being filed with the Secretary's office, so that two copies can be included in the record for each of the five above-captioned proceedings. Should you need additional information, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely yours,

John T. Scott, III

John T. Scott, III

cc: Thomas Sugrue

S. Mark Tuller
Vice President - Legal and External Affairs
General Counsel

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VIA OVERNIGHT DELIVERY

April 11, 2001

Mr. Thomas Sugrue
Chief
Wireless Telecommunications Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
445 – 12th Street, S.W
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Tom:

As promised, here is a recap of critical issues facing Verizon Wireless. We would like to work closely with you and your staff on these issues in the weeks and months ahead.

1. Spectrum. Spectrum allocations for 3G, and removal of the spectrum cap, continue to be key priorities. The results of the recent PCS auction make it absolutely clear that there is tremendous unmet demand for additional spectrum. Commission action on 3G reallocations from the ITFS/MMDS bands and the Department of Defense band—policies that the Government itself supported at WRC-2000—is critical to the wireless industry's ability to meet growing public demand for new and expanded service.

2. Access to numbers. Too many state commissions are delaying area code relief when it's needed to meet the demands of wireless customers. Numbers are being rationed to artificially extend the lives of area codes, harming wireless competition and undermining consumer choice. Immediate Commission actions, actions that we and other carriers have sought in various proceedings, are needed to give force to national numbering policy and ensure the wireless industry can meet customer demands.

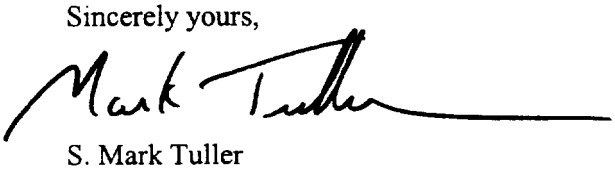
3. Pooling vs. wireless number portability. There is a significant difference. Thousand-number-block number pooling by the wireless industry on a basis compatible with the LEC industry is desirable and supportable on number conservation grounds. But going beyond the network upgrades necessary to be pooling-capable, and implementing full single-number portability, is a much more expensive and technically complex process. The 1996 Act does not require CMRS single-number portability. Although the Commission originally imposed it on the wireless industry with the stated rationale of promoting competition, that rationale does not hold up given the competitive vigor already present in the wireless marketplace. We would like to discuss with your staff a proposal to the Commission to ensure that CMRS carriers participate in pooling, but without imposing the additional, unnecessary burdens of full single-number portability.

4. 211/511. We (together with CTIA and other carriers) have asked the Commission to reconsider these requirements. A copy of our petition is enclosed. These are more mandates that were imposed without any consideration of the unique costs and technical problems they force on wireless carriers, and without following the principle of eschewing wireless regulations not supported by a clear-cut need. These mandates, particularly the forced carriage of government-produced traffic reports by all competitors, undermine competitive differentiation and raise constitutional concerns.

5. Privacy. CMRS providers are already regulated on privacy matters as telecommunications carriers subject to statutory CPNI requirements protecting customer records and, now, location information. Those requirements are sufficient. To the extent limited additional regulation may be appropriate at all, it should focus on establishing a clear and broadly construed safe harbor for carriers' privacy policies, and on parity between carriers and non-carriers.

These are only some of the important issues that face your Bureau and the industry. I would like to establish a regular time each month to talk with you about them, if your schedule could accommodate that arrangement. Please let me know. I look forward to meeting with you again soon.

Sincerely yours,



S. Mark Tuller

Attachment