

ATTACHMENT 2

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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Order Instituting Investigation) CASE NO.
on the Commission's Own Motion) 11-06-009
Into the Planned Purchase and)
Acquisition by AT&T Inc. of)
T-Mobile USA, Inc., and its)
Effect on California Ratepayers)
and the California Economy)

TRANSCRIPT OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION HEARING
THURSDAY, JULY 21, 2011

Reported by:

CHRISTIANNE LEE FONG, CSR 7559.

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A P P E A R A N C E S

ALJ KATHERINE MACDONALD

COMMISSIONER CATHERINE J.K. SANDOVAL

PRESIDENT MICHAEL PEEVEY

-oOo-

1 THURSDAY, JULY 21, 2011; 4:07 P.M.

2 CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

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4 JUDGE MACDONALD: We will be on the record.
5 Good evening, everyone. The Commission will please
6 come to order.

7 This is the time and place set by the
8 California Public Utilities Commission for the next
9 public participation hearing in I.11-06-009, the
10 investigation into the planned purchase and
11 acquisition of T-Mobile USA, Incorporated, by New
12 Cingular Wireless, which is affiliated with AT&T,
13 Incorporated, and its effect on California
14 ratepayers and the California economy.

15 I am Administrative Law Judge Katherine
16 Kwan MacDonald. I have been assigned by the
17 Commission to preside over this public participation
18 hearing. Administrative Law Judge Jessica Hecht is
19 the assigned administrative law judge in this
20 proceeding.

21 My role here tonight is to ensure that a
22 fair hearing is conducted into this application and
23 to assist in development of a complete record which
24 Judge Hecht will utilize to prepare a proposed
25 decision for the Commission's consideration.

1 Also with me this evening is President
2 Peevey and Commissioner Catherine Sandoval.
3 Commissioner Sandoval is assigned as the lead
4 Commissioner responsible for this proceeding.

5 The Commission has scheduled this public
6 participation hearing tonight to receive your
7 comments on the proposed purchase of T-Mobile by
8 AT&T Wireless. This is sometimes referred to as a
9 proposed merger between these companies. Everyone
10 wishing to express his views or her views this
11 evening will have a chance to do so.

12 There is a court reporter with us this
13 evening, Christianne Fong, and she will take down
14 everything that you say so that it can become a part
15 of the record of this proceeding and the Commission
16 can look at it when making a decision. Because of
17 that, it's important when you speak to speak slowly.
18 I won't interrupt you, and we will all be careful
19 not to interrupt or speak over one another. Before
20 you begin speaking, please say your name and spell
21 it for the court reporter.

22 Some of you may have written or may in the
23 future write letters or emails to the Commission
24 regarding this case. Those letters and emails and
25 correspondence will also be made available to the

1 Commissioners, to myself, and to Judge Hecht.

2 Everybody who would like to speak today
3 should sign up with the Public Advisor's Office
4 located just outside this door. This evening we
5 have several representatives from the Public
6 Advisor's Office and the Consumer Affairs Branch
7 here to help you.

8 For ground rules, I will remind you again
9 not to interrupt other speakers and to be respectful
10 of others' opinions and viewpoints. In addition, if
11 necessary, and I think this evening it will be
12 necessary, based on the number of speakers, we will
13 be limiting each speaker to three minutes or less.

14 Also, as at past public participation
15 hearings, when we have large affiliated groups with
16 a single organization, we may ask that either a few
17 speakers represent that full group or that we have
18 primary speakers and others in the group limit
19 themselves to one minute each.

20 Before we begin with your comments,
21 President Peevey, do you wish to make some comments
22 this evening?

23 PRESIDENT PEEVEY: Not right at this
24 moment.

25 JUDGE MACDONALD: Commissioner Sandoval?

1 COMMISSIONER SANDOVAL: Thank you very
2 much, Administrative Law Judge. And thank you so
3 much, President Peevey, for being here, and thank
4 you to all of you --

5 WOMAN: We can't hear.

6 COMMISSIONER SANDOVAL: Thank you. Can you
7 hear me? Can you hear me now?

8 With due respect, we believe in
9 competition. So thank to you all of you for being
10 here at this public participation hearing.

11 So it is great to be home. I am from Los
12 Angeles. So President Peevey has been living here
13 in Los Angeles for many decades. I was born in Los
14 Angeles, raised in Los Angeles, originally from
15 Highland Park and then from East Los Angeles and
16 then Montebello. Spent a lot of time down here in
17 this area, so we're very excited to have the
18 participation of the public.

19 This is an opportunity to fulfill our
20 statutory mandate under the California Public
21 Utilities Code to examine whether or not the
22 proposed merger of AT&T and T-Mobile is in the
23 public interest. The legislature has charged us
24 with looking at whether or not this is -- this
25 proposed merger serves the public interest for the

1 public of California and enumerates a number of
2 factors that we should consider, including the
3 effect of the proposed merger on competition, the
4 effect of the proposed merger on service, the effect
5 of the proposed merger on communities, on
6 California's economy, both the long-term and
7 short-term economy, the effect of the proposed
8 merger on employees, on the health of the companies,
9 and on ratepayers and shareholders.

10 So we look forward to your comments, and
11 especially to your comments that are relevant to
12 those factors that we have to consider in the
13 statute. The statute also tells us to examine
14 whether or not there are any mitigating measures
15 that could address any issues that are raised by the
16 merger.

17 So we look forward to your comments, and
18 thank you so much for your participation.

19 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you, Commissioner.

20 Now, this evening we also have the Public
21 Advisor with us, and I'd like to ask Ms. Miller to
22 let us know how the Public Advisor works with
23 communities and individuals to participate in
24 proceedings.

25 MS. MILLER: Good evening. My name is

1 Karen Miller, and I'm the Public Advisor at the
2 California Public Utilities Commission. And I have
3 a staff here, Marcus Nixon, who is outside, who's
4 been signing all of you up, and we also have our
5 folks from the Consumer Affairs Branch who are
6 helping out.

7 And I just wanted to make clear that the
8 Public Advisor's Office assists with the
9 facilitation of public participation hearings such
10 as this one. And we also provide procedural
11 information and advice to individuals who want to
12 participate in these hearings. So if anybody has
13 any questions about the logistics of these hearings,
14 how we put them together, when we're going to have
15 additional ones, they can check with me on the break
16 or after the meeting.

17 We're able to help you understand the
18 different ways in which you might be able to become
19 involved, and we're really glad that you're able to
20 join us tonight, as public participation is very,
21 very important to the decision-makers of the
22 Commission. They do consider public comment when
23 they are writing the decisions on these issues.

24 If you wish to provide oral comment during
25 tonight's comment phase of the proceeding, please

1 make sure that you've signed up outside at the table
2 so we can call your name. If you do not wish to
3 speak, you can still send letters or emails to the
4 Public Advisor's Office, and we circulate all the
5 letters and comments that we receive to
6 Commissioners' offices, to the executive offices,
7 the Administrative Law Judge's office, so they are
8 considered in the proceeding just as well as the
9 comments that are made here at the podium tonight.

10 There are many ways to stay informed about
11 hearings, such as the Commission's public
12 subscription service. So if anybody has any
13 questions about that, feel free to ask me for my
14 number at the break, and I will make sure I can get
15 you up to date on that.

16 And our Consumer Affairs Branch folks that
17 are here with us tonight, Juanita Lane Etta West and
18 Toni House, they are able to take informal
19 complaints on phone issues, energy issues, et
20 cetera. So if you're having a problem right now
21 with your utility service and you haven't been able
22 to resolve it, it's a good opportunity tonight to
23 talk to one of these ladies because they will be
24 able to help you out.

25 So any questions at all, please contact me

1 or the other folks out in the hall and we will be
2 happy to help you.

3 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you, Karen.

4 We have present this evening city council
5 member Andrew Weissman, who will be our first
6 speaker this evening.

7 This hearing is your opportunity to make
8 statements of your views on the Commission's record.
9 Please note that the hearing is not a question-and-
10 answer session, but if there are any questions that
11 arise, I will make note of them, collect them into
12 groups of five.

13 I'm sorry, Mr. Councilman. I was just
14 trying to get you ready.

15 COUNCILMAN WEISSMAN: That's fine. Thank
16 you.

17 JUDGE MACDONALD: Then we'll accumulate
18 those questions and answer them. I want to make
19 sure that everybody who has a statement has the
20 opportunity to present it. If you signed up to
21 speak this evening and you change your mind, you are
22 welcome to let us know that as well.

23 Also, there are representatives from both
24 companies here this evening. There was a table
25 outside. They're probably present in the room at

1 the moment. If you could raise your hands. AT&T,
2 T-Mobile representative? Okay. If you need to
3 speak to one of them at the break or after the
4 hearing, they are here.

5 So if I get a question that's too complex
6 or requires back-and-forth discussion, I may ask you
7 to speak with the experts. We have some with us
8 this evening.

9 I also wanted to let you know that we have
10 a Spanish language interpreter here this evening.
11 If you need the interpreter's assistance, the
12 interpreter is at the back of the room wearing the
13 apricot-colored shirt, and he will be happy to
14 assist you.

15 Please keep your statements brief and avoid
16 repeating statements that others have already made
17 if possible. In general, we will be hearing from
18 the speakers in the order that they have signed up.
19 However, as I indicated, the city councilman, as a
20 public elected official, will begin this evening.
21 And then we have the Black Economic Council and the
22 Asian Business Journal, and we will have four
23 speakers from them to start the evening.

24 If you signed up to speak and you really
25 need to leave early and you're at the top of this

1 list, we will do our best to get to you as soon as
2 possible. Also, participants are asked to disclose
3 whether they have received or represent an
4 organization that has received money from a party to
5 this proceeding. This is suggested in this
6 particular investigation and will help us put
7 statements in appropriate context.

8 City Councilman.

9 COUNCILMAN WEISSMAN: Thank you, Judge
10 MacDonald. My name is Andrew Weissman, A-n-d-r-e-w,
11 W-e-i-s-s-m-a-n. I'm a member of the city council
12 in the City of Culver City. However, I'm speaking
13 today as an individual, as a resident of Culver
14 City, and not on behalf of Culver City.

15 MAN: We can't hear.

16 JUDGE MACDONALD: I believe the microphone
17 is on. It might be a little short for you.

18 COUNCILMAN WEISSMAN: I'll hold it up.
19 Thank you.

20 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you.

21 COUNCILMAN WEISSMAN: And in response to
22 the question, no, I have not received any
23 compensation from any participants here this
24 afternoon.

25 AT&T has been an exceptional corporate

1 citizen in Culver City. I have personally
2 experienced its involvement and have heard from the
3 Culver City community at large its appreciation for
4 AT&T's high level of community involvement and
5 service.

6 I am hopeful that combining AT&T with
7 T-Mobile will improve the wireless experience for
8 our community. I am optimistic that combining AT&T
9 and T-Mobile existing cell sites will do two
10 significant things for this community: Number one,
11 significantly improve service to the community, and
12 two, and as important, if not more importantly, do
13 so without needing to erect as many new cell sites.

14 This is what I believe Culver City would
15 hope to see if this merger moves forward and why I
16 personally believe the merger to be in the best
17 interests of Culver City.

18 Thank you for allowing me to speak.

19 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you, Councilman.

20 Our next speaker will be Pastor Cecil
21 Murray.

22 PASTOR MURRAY: Thank you very much for
23 allowing us this brief moment, and our thanks to Bob
24 Gnaizda for being our bridge to you.

25 Both Reverend Mark Whitlock and I ought to

1 make a brief statement and will have a brief word of
2 prayer with your permission, coming from the
3 faith-based community and the nonprofit community.

4 In our black culture, we say, Without a
5 song, a day would never end. Without a song, a road
6 would never been. When things go wrong, man or
7 woman ain't got a friend, without a song.

8 So we are grateful for the understanding
9 that a job is as a song. Without a job, a day would
10 never end. The joblessness rate among the
11 impoverished communities, particularly in the
12 African-American community, is twice that of the
13 national rate. And that brings other repercussions
14 that take us below the line.

15 So we are thankful to those of you in the
16 corporate world with the sensitivity to give us a
17 melody, to give us a chance to make a chance.

18 Dear God, we will not be with ingratitude
19 for pioneers in ethics, for pioneers who value even
20 above the dollar the humanness of your children. We
21 need jobs. We need job-makers, job-finders, and
22 those who fill the jobs.

23 And claim this blessing in your name, amen.

24 REV. WHITLOCK: Thank you. My name is
25 Reverend Mark Whitlock. I represent Christ Our

1 Redeemer AME Church in Irvine, California. I also
2 serve as executive director of the Cecil Murray
3 Center for Community Engagement for USC.

4 Bob Gnaizda invites us to bring some of our
5 students who represent their own organization, not
6 USC, because USC takes no position in this. So my
7 comments today certainly represent that of Christ
8 Our Redeemer AME Church.

9 We are concerned in Orange County, where my
10 church is, that while AT&T has a stellar record of
11 hiring African-Americans -- some 15 percent of their
12 staff throughout the State of California
13 African-American, part of their senior management,
14 some 20 percent -- when you look at the State of
15 California has less than 6 percent
16 African-Americans, and then we look at the challenge
17 that African-Americans face just simply
18 matriculating and graduating from college, AT&T must
19 be saluted, celebrated for what they are doing.

20 Our concern is not about AT&T, because if
21 T-Mobile is acquired, then we certainly would
22 support that merger or certainly that acquisition by
23 AT&T.

24 The concern that we have by way of Christ
25 Our Redeemer is for T-Mobile. Any time that there

1 is an acquisition or merger, there tends to be a
2 loss on the other side of the equation. So what do
3 we do about those who were employed by T-Mobile?
4 What do we do about minority contractors who are
5 benefiting from contracts with T-Mobile? What do we
6 do about those opportunities that T-Mobile has
7 presented over the years and then the loss of that
8 opportunity within the African-American community?

9 The African-American community suffers from
10 a poverty of money. We don't have enough money to
11 take care of our basic necessities. The
12 African-American community suffers from a poverty of
13 safety, where we don't feel safe on the street. We
14 certainly suffer from a poverty of the lack of
15 information or access to the internet, access to
16 technology.

17 But the one thing that we suffer from more
18 than anything else is a poverty of opportunity,
19 where we have no opportunity in the marketplace.
20 And so if this merger or this opportunity presents
21 itself, let us not forget the other side of the
22 equation.

23 I would like certainly Commissioner
24 Sandoval to be aware of what takes place within
25 T-Mobile. That is our concern by way of service, by

1 way of minority contracts, and we pray to God that
2 your eyes are wide open. We hope that you do hear
3 us now.

4 Do you hear us now?

5 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you, Mr. Whitlock.

6 The next person from that group is Cora
7 Oriel. Is Cora here this evening?

8 MS. ORIEL: Good afternoon. The Asian --
9 I'm Cora Oriel. I'm with The Asian Journal, and
10 it's a Filipino newspaper. And I also represent the
11 National Asian-American Coalition as its board
12 chair, and SIPA, which is a Filipino group, and I'm
13 also their board member.

14 The Asian-American community is concerned
15 about corporations that do not employ, do business
16 with, and who are not exhibiting corporate social
17 responsibility in our community and the other
18 minority groups and underserved communities.

19 We commend the CPUC on its diligence in
20 monitoring the records of AT&T, Sprint, and other
21 competitors on this issue. We hope that this
22 continues on so that minority businesses are able to
23 compete with the corporate giants for much-needed
24 contracts and members of our communities who are
25 under their employ are given a chance to climb up

1 the corporate ladder.

2 On a positive note, AT&T has been
3 commendable in its transparency when it comes to
4 their records and efforts in doing business with
5 16 million Asian-Americans in the US and other
6 minority communities. They also have a remarkable
7 hiring process in terms of diversity and in their
8 philanthropy.

9 Unfortunately, T-Mobile has not been as
10 invested in our communities in similar manner. We
11 will support the merger of AT&T with T-Mobile as
12 long as AT&T continues on and even improve upon its
13 current record in its hiring process, in its
14 commitment in terms of the volume of contracts it
15 awards to minority communities, and in their
16 philanthropy as well. We would also like to see
17 that AT&T has a long-term commitment to the said
18 efforts and the course of action they will take to
19 ensure that the consumers will not be jeopardized by
20 the said merger.

21 Thank you.

22 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you, Ms. Oriel.

23 The last of the first four from your group
24 is Stacy Olivares-Howard.

25 MS. OLIVARES-CASTAIN: Hello. I'm Stacy

1 Olivares, now Castain as of recently, and I'm here
2 as a small business owner and --

3 WOMAN: We can't hear.

4 JUDGE MACDONALD: Ms. Castain, could you
5 also, before you get started, could you spell your
6 name for the court reporter.

7 MS. OLIVARES-CASTAIN: Sure. It's a long
8 one. O-l-i-v-a-r-e-s, hyphen Castain,
9 C-a-s-t-a-i-n.

10 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you.

11 MS. OLIVARES-CASTAIN: Sure.

12 So I'm here today as a small business owner
13 and a board member of the Latino Business Chamber of
14 Greater Los Angeles. And I have some concerns. A
15 merger between AT&T and T-Mobile will further
16 consolidate the telecommunications industry and may
17 diminish the ability of small business owners to
18 compete in it. Graphic designers, retail shop
19 owners, phone accessory distributors, and hundreds
20 of other types of small business owners stand to
21 lose supplier contracts in this merger.

22 How will the CPUC hold telecommunications
23 companies accountable to the statutes of GO 156? As
24 a I understand it, GO 156 is to encourage greater
25 business for diverse enterprises, to promote

1 competition, and to expand the utilities procurement
2 of products and services from diverse enterprises.

3 Will the CPUC consider requiring AT&T and
4 T-Mobile to demonstrate support of minority-owned
5 businesses by making substantial and long-term
6 investments in technical assistance and also in
7 establishing new technology incubators within
8 communities of color?

9 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you, Ms. Olivares.

10 Before we continue with your group, there
11 is a gentleman who came very early this evening and
12 has a time constraint.

13 Chris Ward?

14 MR. WARD: Thank you very much.

15 I'm Chris Ward. I'm the founder of Ward --

16 JUDGE MACDONALD: Mr. Ward, you are -- I
17 think so far the tallest speaker. If you could pull
18 that up. And then please spell your name for the
19 court reporter.

20 MR. WARD: Chris, C-h-r-i-s, Ward, W-a-r-d.

21 I'm the founder of Ward International
22 Ministries, which is an international evangelistic
23 organization, but also the founder of the Ward
24 International Foundation that works with
25 underprivileged and underserved communities that are

1 primarily Hispanic and black.

2 Whenever I see large companies, especially
3 telecommunication companies, you know, buying up the
4 smaller companies, I'm concerned about it from this
5 standpoint: The number one way of communication in
6 these inner cities are cell phones. That is their
7 only link to technology. Okay?

8 Now, we know there's a disparity in price
9 between AT&T, and I'm a customer and I enjoy the
10 service and I'm very glad to see that they have a
11 favorable record in hiring and jobs and where
12 ethnicities are concerned, but the bigger concern is
13 how is it going to affect the pricing structure for
14 these young people in the inner cities that need to
15 have communication with their families?

16 And it's important, and in many cases it's
17 the only communication they have with technology,
18 the only link to technology is the cell phone. Most
19 of them do not have workable, up-to-date computers
20 in their houses. How is that going to affect them?

21 And then secondly, to piggy-back on the
22 other sentiment, if the acquisition goes through --
23 and I'm not against it; okay? But I think these
24 considerations need to be made -- how is this money
25 going to be refunneled back in to alleviate this

1 great barrier or gap in technology where the
2 African-American and Hispanic people in the inner
3 cities are concerned?

4 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you, Mr. Ward.

5 We will now return to your group,
6 Mr. Gnaizda, and as requested, will get the first
7 four lined up for a minute each.

8 MR. GNAIZDA: The group can now just line
9 up here. As the judge indicated, we'll speak for
10 one minute each.

11 WOMAN: By order of when we signed up or
12 what?

13 JUDGE MACDONALD: Yes. Mr. Gnaizda's group
14 signed up as a group and are limiting the amount of
15 time that they speak -- Mr. Gnaizda's group is
16 signed up as a group, and they are going to be
17 limiting the amount of time that they speak so that
18 they can speak together.

19 WOMAN: Thank you.

20 MAN: That looks like it's going to be 15
21 minutes at least.

22 JUDGE MACDONALD: We have currently lined
23 up to speak this evening altogether approximately 50
24 people. The people who are signed up individually
25 will have three minutes to speak. The members of

1 this particular group are going to be given one
2 minute.

3 WOMAN: Thank you.

4 JUDGE MACDONALD: Please make sure you
5 introduce yourself and spell your name.

6 MAN: Can you ask them not to repeat what a
7 previous speaker said?

8 JUDGE MACDONALD: I'm sorry. Please --
9 please state your name, spell it for the record.

10 And I will ask that everybody in the
11 audience, as well as the speakers, be respectful of
12 other people in the audience who are here as members
13 of the public to share their opinion with us.

14 Thank you. Please begin.

15 MS. JOHNSON: My name is Jessica Johnson,
16 J-e-s-s-i-c-a, J-o-h-n-s-o-n. I'm here from
17 Sunnyvale. I'm a small business consultant, and I
18 applaud AT&T's record in not only employee diversity
19 but also supplier diversity.

20 I recognize the fact that they're taking on
21 a huge responsibility with T-Mobile because T-Mobile
22 does serve a very -- a lower socioeconomic group
23 than is typical of AT&T customers. And with that,
24 it's very important to me that there -- they are
25 supported. Again, the price of the plans as well as

1 supplier diversity. I am actually hopeful that the
2 supplier diversity will increase because of AT&T's
3 record.

4 Thank you.

5 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you.

6 MS. LEWIS: My name is Yolanda Lewis,
7 Y-o-l-a-n-d-a, L-e-w-i-s. I'm a business owner as
8 well as a mother.

9 I'm here because this merger is inevitable.
10 There's no way that we're going to be able to stop
11 it. The question is, who is going to buy T-Mobile
12 and the record of that company that purchases
13 T-Mobile.

14 And we would like the Commission and the
15 judge to take steps to ensure that this is a case
16 that sets precedence for other companies that come
17 in behind, companies that may not have a successful
18 record that AT&T comes to the table with, that can
19 be improved, but that when you come before the
20 Commission and you want to purchase and grow through
21 mergers and acquisitions, you have to demonstrate
22 your commitment to the community for jobs, for our
23 youth, and for our small business community.

24 So we ask that you use this as a case to
25 send the message to the Silicon Valley giants such

1 as Google and Apple and others who refuse to provide
2 transparency that this is what's going to be
3 required in order to move forward.

4 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you.

5 MS. ROBINSON: Good afternoon. My name is
6 Mykesha A. Robinson, and that's spelled M as in
7 Mary, -y-k-e-s- as in Sam, -h-a, middle initial A,
8 last name Robinson. And I am the founder of the
9 first ever Los Angeles County Community Development
10 Corporation. We were recently incorporated
11 January 12 by Secretary of State of California
12 Deborah Bowen, and we are here -- also I'm a student
13 of USC -- and we are very, very concerned about the
14 implications in the merger as pertains to community
15 giving.

16 In our research we have found through the
17 Center for Economic and Policy Research that
18 African-American youth between the ages of 19 and 16
19 are unemployed, and our goal is to make sure that
20 community giving still continues through the merger,
21 and that it's going directly back into
22 implementations to the community.

23 And we do support the merger.

24 Thank you again for your time.

25 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you.

1 PASTOR WILLIAMS: Hello, my name is Pastor
2 Wallace Williams, W-a-l-l-a-c-e, W-i-l-l-i-a-m-s.
3 I'm a pastor of Artesia City Church, located at
4 18411 Alburdis Avenue, Artesia, California. And I
5 am here to support this merger.

6 In a time of great unemployment and
7 uncertainty, we are concerned for the lives that we
8 pastors serve on daily basis here in California. We
9 are here to share our concern about the pending
10 merger between AT&T and T-Mobile.

11 I'm here to support the merger, and thank
12 you for the opportunity to speak.

13 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you.

14 PASTOR ANDUJO: Thank you. I'm Julio
15 Andujo, J-u-l-i-o, last name is A-n-d-u-j-o, the
16 pastor of Amos Temple CME Church in Riverside.

17 I want to say ditto to a lot of what has
18 been said, but in addition to that I would like to
19 see more research and -- money and resources given
20 to research in health standards using the cell
21 phone, and that those health standards will be made
22 transparent to the consumer upon purchase. And that
23 includes new technology.

24 I do support the merger, and thank you for
25 this time to speak.

1 MS. GILLETT: Hello, my name is Constance
2 Gillett, G-i-l-l-e-t-t. I represent Lily's Care
3 Circle. I'm the founder and director, and I'm here
4 with the class PTM. I'm learning a lot.

5 I do support the merger, but what I'd like
6 to say is the people that really should be here are
7 probably working at this time. Most of the people
8 that are here are on a learning experience or they
9 work in this field, but the people that have AT&T
10 and T-Mobile are not here. They're working. And
11 I'm wondering if there's a time that you can do it
12 in the evenings, on weekends, so they can have their
13 input, because they are the ones that make the money
14 for these companies.

15 And I thank you for this opportunity.

16 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you.

17 MR. HOBSON: Hello. I'm Jason Hobson,
18 H-o-b-s-o-n. I am a board member of the National
19 Asian-American Coalition. I'm also an owner of a
20 minority law firm. The National Asian-American
21 Coalition has received funds from the CPUC. My law
22 firm has not. And I wouldn't deny it if it was
23 offered.

24 I am here on behalf of the National
25 Asian-American Coalition to support this AT&T

1 acquisition of T-Mobile. AT&T, as many have
2 mentioned, has had a very stellar record in supplier
3 diversity and diversity hiring.

4 And given that record, I do think it is
5 appropriate for the Commission to reward that
6 behavior, and I specifically request that in your
7 findings and discussions as it relates to this
8 acquisition that you -- that you address GO 156 and
9 AT&T's performance as it relates to community and
10 economy and jobs.

11 As many of you know, GO 156 doesn't have a
12 tremendous amount of teeth, and I think this is an
13 opportunity to actually show the relevance and place
14 the value that good corporate citizens should be
15 rewarded for this very positive impact that they've
16 had on their community.

17 Thank you.

18 MS. DRISKELL: Hello. I'm Andree Driskell,
19 A-n-d-r-e-e, D-r-i-s-k-e-l-l.

20 As a small minority business owner, my
21 focus is the positive impact that this merger will
22 have on our community, especially LMI communities.
23 If it creates more jobs, if it creates more
24 opportunities for minority-owned businesses, I'm all
25 for it.

1 That's it.

2 MS. JENKINS: Good afternoon. My name is
3 Kathye Jenkins. That's K-a-t-h-y-e, J-e-n-k-i-n-s.
4 I am the first lady of the Abundant Grace Bible
5 Church of Hawthorne and the founder and president of
6 the Gardena Valley and Vicinity Ministers' Wives and
7 Ministers' Widows, also known as The Sisterhood
8 Connection.

9 "Connection" is the word that I like to use
10 because I like to feel the pulse of my members, and
11 feeling the pulse of the people is very important.
12 How do you know how I feel unless you ask me?
13 Politicians can't answer for me. Other people can't
14 answer for me.

15 So what I would like to see is a process in
16 which AT&T would be on the pulse of the people, not
17 just a poll, a random poll, but the pulse of the
18 people. The words "Can you hear me now?" is not the
19 words I need to hear. I need to hear that I heard
20 you and we're going to take care of that.

21 Thank you.

22 WOMAN: Yeah.

23 PASTOR TAYLOR: Good evening. My name is
24 James Taylor, J-a-m-e-s, T-a-y-l-o-r. I am the lead
25 pastor of the Heavenly Vision Church in South Los

1 Angeles.

2 Basically, in 1984, which coincidentally is
3 the year I was born, AT&T's parent company I believe
4 was diversified, got us to where -- just about where
5 we are today, now that they're on the other side of
6 the coin. And it was said at that time that it
7 would create a better market and more competition in
8 regards to the telecommunication community.

9 My only admonishment or my question that I
10 would pose to the Commission is that if this is
11 going to go through, we pray and we believe and we
12 hope that this would not curtail the diversification
13 of the community to where we will not be able to
14 choose or have any competition in regards to the
15 rates that our parishioners do pay.

16 Thank you.

17 JUDGE MACDONALD: Before the next speaker,
18 I just want to remind everyone in the audience if
19 you are affiliated, if your group is affiliated with
20 either of the companies in this, to please let us
21 know.

22 Thank you.

23 MR. SIMS: Thank you.

24 My name is William Edward Sims. That is
25 W-i-l-l-i-a-m, middle initial E, and the last name

1 is Sims, S-i-m-s. And I represent Ward
2 International Industries where Bishop Chris Ward is
3 my pastor in Inglewood, California.

4 We're concerned about the lives that we
5 pastor, and the lives that we pastor are those of
6 our minorities, which are black and Latinos. And
7 with such a high rate of unemployment and lack of
8 opportunities, I support this merger because I
9 believe that this will help them and that it affects
10 them to the most part.

11 Thank you for giving me the opportunity to
12 speak.

13 MR. JONES: Good evening everybody. My
14 name is Alexander Jones, A-l-e-x-a-n-d-e-r,
15 J-o-n-e-s. I am CEO, founder and chef of war of
16 AL-EXcelente Fine Foods & Catering. Also student at
17 California State University Dominguez Hills,
18 graduating in two years.

19 I would like to address a concern that was
20 made prior to this meeting. The question was asked
21 by our Commissioner, Ms. Sandoval, that is this
22 merger going to be in the public interest? And I do
23 believe that old, young and in between, it will be
24 in our public interest. And as a T-Mobile customer
25 myself, I will be directly impacted by this. So I

1 would be pro for this merger.

2 However, nothing good comes without a
3 price, and the concern is how great of the costs
4 will it be?

5 Thank you.

6 MR. FLORAN: My name is Victor Floran,
7 V-i-c-t-o-r, F-l-o-r-a-n.

8 I'm a tax accountant and small business
9 owner, and I'm not here to be against or in favor of
10 the merger, but I'm here to make a request to you:
11 If you are the body that regulates and write the
12 policy in this merger, just to take a look at the
13 details what they promising.

14 Because I got a bad experience with AT&T
15 ten years ago. I'm not doing business with them.
16 I'm paying my money to the competition because they
17 tend to raise the fees most of the time. And I
18 think in my perspective they keep raising the fees,
19 and that's one of the reason why I left, because
20 after wages, the highest expense in my office was
21 telecommunication. So -- and I would imagine that
22 they do the same with everybody. So that's why I
23 went with the competition.

24 The deep -- extremely deep concern are take
25 a look at the details, because the companies,

1 utility companies, are really abusing -- in my
2 perspective, they abusing the public. I find a lot
3 of fallacies with the Edison company and AT- --
4 done?

5 WOMAN: There are far more than 15 people
6 who have spoken.

7 JUDGE MACDONALD: Can you wait one moment,
8 please. Thank you.

9 MR. FLORAN: Excuse me?

10 JUDGE MACDONALD: Mr. Gnaizda, is this
11 person with your group?

12 MR. GNAIZDA: Yes.

13 JUDGE MACDONALD: Okay. Each person is
14 only going to be speaking one minute.

15 MR. FLORAN: Oh. That's what I got?

16 JUDGE MACDONALD: That was your one minute.

17 MR. FLORAN: Fine.

18 JUDGE MACDONALD: I know it goes quickly --

19 THE WITNESS: Quick. Thanks very much for
20 your time.

21 WOMAN: Excuse me. There is more than 15
22 people here. Okay?

23 JUDGE MACDONALD: Excuse me one moment.
24 What is happening is there are far more people here
25 than would take up the allotted time for speaking.

1 So what we have done -- and this is a forum that was
2 utilized in the last meeting -- was Mr. Gnaizda's
3 group agreed to give up a certain amount of time.
4 These people all could sign up individually and have
5 three minutes per speaker to speak, and instead they
6 have condensed.

7 How many more speakers do we have,
8 Mr. Gnaizda?

9 MR. GNAIZDA: I think there's about ten.

10 JUDGE MACDONALD: So the reason I made the
11 announcement at the beginning about people who had
12 serious time constraints that needed to be attended
13 to in advance, like Mr. Ward, was that I wanted to
14 make sure that those people who arrived here an hour
15 early also had the opportunity to speak, and that
16 those people would go before this group.

17 Now, if you are one of those people and you
18 didn't realize what I was announcing before -- there
19 was a lot of commotion in the room -- if you could
20 see the Public Advisor at the table, let her know
21 your name, and I will call you ahead of the rest of
22 this group.

23 MR. JACINTO: Good afternoon,
24 Commissioners, Judge. Joel Jacinto, J-o-e-l, last
25 name J-a-c-i-n-t-o.

1 I'm executive director of Search to Involve
2 Pilipino-Americans, or SIPA. We're a
3 community-based nonprofit that has been supported by
4 AT&T. We're located in historic Filipinotown in
5 Central Los Angeles, and we serve a clientele that
6 is basically low to moderate income, recent
7 immigrants, and culturally diverse.

8 And I'm here in general support of the
9 merger, and I think that support is contingent and
10 relates to the factors that are important to us in
11 terms of low- to moderate-income families on how the
12 rates and how the programs and services that will
13 address their needs.

14 One in particular, the Universal Lifeline
15 Telephone Service, we are hoping and expecting that
16 AT&T or the new company would address the low- to
17 moderate-income families as a true market, and be
18 truly inclusive of their needs as well.

19 So thank you.

20 MR. HUANG: Dennis Huang, H-u-a-n-g,
21 executive director for the Asian Business
22 Association.

23 Commissioners, Judge, thank you very much
24 for this opportunity to support the merger between
25 AT&T and T-Mobile.

1 As you may already know, Asian Business
2 Association is the oldest and the largest Asian
3 business organization in the state. We are excited
4 to celebrate our 35th year later on this October.

5 Our association was founded on one simple
6 mission, is to represent the Asian business owners
7 and to create business opportunity for our members
8 and our diverse community. We work hard on getting
9 our members ready to do business with corporate
10 America and the utility companies. We often work
11 closely through supply diversity departments.

12 AT&T's supply diversity was ranked by
13 Greenlining as an industry leader. AT&T has a
14 remarkable track record with diverse suppliers,
15 spending \$9.2 billion for nearly 19 percent of this
16 procurement base. In addition, AT&T continues to
17 contribute to organizations serving the
18 Asian-American community.

19 We believe the space will grow and further
20 advancement for our community as a result of this
21 acquisition. So just on behalf of the association,
22 we support the merger.

23 Thank you.

24 PASTOR DE CASTRO: Good afternoon. I'm
25 Cynthia de Castro, that's d-e, C-a-s-t-r-o. I'm

1 from Asian Journal and associate pastor of Ward
2 International Ministries L.A.

3 I'd just like to support this merger
4 because AT&T has a proven track record of investing
5 in the minority communities, and so long as this
6 merger maintains this support, we're all for it.

7 Thank you.

8 MS. ORDINARIO: Good afternoon. My name is
9 Dalit Ordinario, O-r-d-i-n-a-r-i-o.

10 I'm a big supporter of National
11 Asian-American Coalition. I'm also a business
12 owner, a realtor, and my husband a disabled vet.

13 We both have AT&T and T-Mobile services for
14 a long time and they complement each other, and I
15 support this merger. And I just hope -- my concern
16 and hope is that they will be more business
17 friendly, especially to us business owners.

18 Thank you.

19 MR. ROSALES: (Through Spanish interpreter)
20 Good afternoon. My name is Eduardo Rosales.

21 JUDGE MACDONALD: Momentito.

22 MR. ROSALES: I wanted to testify about the
23 union between AT&T and T-Mobile.

24 JUDGE MACDONALD: Can you spell your last
25 name, sir.

1 MR. ROSALES: Rosales, R-o-s-a-l-e-s.

2 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you. Gracias,
3 senior.

4 MR. ROSALES: AT&T has shown the desire of
5 employing -- to employ minorities and to have
6 president who came from minorities. AT&T has been a
7 good neighbor, a good partner, and a company that
8 has helped minorities a lot in California.

9 Thank you.

10 JUDGE MACDONALD: Gracias.

11 MS. SILVA: (Through the interpreter) Good
12 afternoon. My name is Martha Silva. I'm here to --

13 JUDGE MACDONALD: Momentito.

14 We have to spell the name.

15 THE INTERPRETER: You want me to directly?

16 JUDGE MACDONALD: Yes, please.

17 THE INTERPRETER: S-i-l-v-a.

18 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you.

19 MS. SILVA: She said, I'm here to support
20 the union between AT&T and T-Mobile. And to
21 motivate also all the ones who are here today to
22 support AT&T. Because my personal opinion is that
23 the reception is perfect with them, no matter if
24 it's the mountains or somewhere far away. And also
25 because they give very nice opportunities to the

1 Latino youth. Because if we support this fusion,
2 there is a lot more doors that are going to open for
3 more work opportunities. So for companies like
4 Sprint that they don't have good reception, it's
5 going to be better for AT&T.

6 Thank you very much.

7 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you.

8 Before we continue with Mr. Gnaizda's
9 group, there were some speakers here very early who
10 need to be heard now for their schedules, so we are
11 going to do that. We'll just be taking a little
12 break from your group for a moment, please.

13 The first is Maria Elena Durazo.

14 MS. DURAZO: Good evening. Thank you very
15 much. My name is Maria Elena Durazo, last name
16 D-u-r-a-z-o. And I am executive secretary-treasurer
17 of the Los Angeles Federation of Labor.

18 We are -- our federation is made up of 300
19 affiliated local unions. They represent over half a
20 million workers in every key industry in Los Angeles
21 County, transportation and goods movement,
22 entertainment and media, janitorial and hotels,
23 teachers and construction, public sector and retail,
24 to name a few.

25 We are here, Commissioners and Judge, to

1 support the merger between AT&T and T-Mobile USA.
2 We believe that as consumers and as workers, this is
3 good for this country. This merger represents a
4 real opportunity to accelerate the deployment of
5 high-speed broadband services, narrow the digital
6 divide, and increase the number of good jobs in the
7 wireless industry.

8 As you all know, our nation has experienced
9 a very devastating economic crisis. And it's the
10 worst, at least in my generation, in our lifetimes.
11 And through it all, the greatest pain has been felt
12 in the job losses and home foreclosures. We have a
13 very, very slow recovery ahead of us.

14 What we need to do to get America back on
15 track is to equip our nation with the tools we need,
16 and we need good jobs. So for us, this merger is
17 good for consumers getting access, but also it's
18 good for working men and women. And as we prepare
19 for the future, we need more jobs and good jobs, not
20 just minimum-wage, dead-end, no-benefit jobs. And
21 we need them now.

22 AT&T is the largest private sector company
23 that negotiates a union contract with its employees
24 in the country. And under its union contract,
25 42,000 workers receive good wages and benefits,

1 providing for their families and stimulating the
2 economy because they take that home to their
3 communities. We need more jobs like those at AT&T.

4 And it's going to give -- this merger is
5 going to give the same opportunity to more than
6 20,000 additional T-Mobile workers across the
7 country, several thousand in California alone. So
8 we urge support for this merger. We believe, again,
9 that as consumers and as people who work very hard
10 every day, this is a good deal.

11 Thank you very much.

12 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you.

13 Next speaker is Jim Murez, M-u-r-e-z.

14 MR. MUREZ: Thank you.

15 JUDGE MACDONALD: Make sure you spell your
16 name yourself as well.

17 MR. MUREZ: James Murez, M-u-r-e-z.

18 WOMAN: It's not on.

19 WOMAN: Can't hear you.

20 MAN: It's not on.

21 MR. MUREZ: James Murez, M-u-r-e-z.

22 I'm of the community of Venice Beach area.
23 It's a coastal community. We have some very unique
24 conditions. First of all, we're at the edge of the
25 country, so we're really only served by half of the

1 system, because the other half is the ocean. And as
2 a result, we have very few cell towers, which is
3 probably a good thing because there's a lot of
4 residential area.

5 And with that in mind, the problem that I
6 think -- I happen to be the chair of our
7 neighborhood council, which is a branch of city
8 government, in case you're not familiar with it.
9 But the cell tower committee -- and although we
10 haven't taken an official position of any sort on
11 cell towers, one thing that we have noticed in the
12 past several years is the cell companies don't seem
13 to co-locate, and as a result of not co-locating, a
14 merger like this of course will give one cell
15 company much more coverage because they will now
16 have many more towers than the other companies.

17 Does that create jobs? I don't think so.
18 I don't think it creates jobs, because if they were
19 co-locating, then they would all be up there
20 climbing each other's poles and all servicing each
21 other's equipment.

22 So what does it really do? Well, the other
23 hat that I wear is as a computer programmer of
24 sorts. I do it mostly on a consulting basis, and
25 one thing that I've noticed is that AT&T's rates are

1 considerably higher for text messaging. More than
2 five times the rate of T-Mobile.

3 Now, I use T-Mobile unlimited plan for text
4 messaging. I put it into my laptop, and it allows
5 me to text message with a real keyboard. And to me
6 that's very important because I do that quite a bit.
7 The same rate from AT&T is five times as much. I
8 can get a plan from T-Mobile on a pay as you go for
9 \$15 a month. Well, that same plan is \$75 a month
10 from AT&T. Why?

11 Well, to AT&T calls it tethering. And if I
12 tether, then they want to charge me more because
13 they feel like I'm using data services. Yet I'm
14 still only text messaging. It's the same service.
15 I can't use my family plan card. It's crazy if you
16 ask me. Why do they have a special plan for
17 somebody who just wants to text message?

18 So I've heard many people speak and say
19 that the T-Mobile serves the lower economic
20 community. Well, I very much believe that that's
21 true, and I believe that this merger may be good for
22 the people at AT&T to get more and more of the
23 market share. I don't believe it's good for jobs.
24 I do not believe it's good for the consumers. I
25 think it's going to undermine the very essence of

1 this country of having small businesses that are
2 able to thrive.

3 Thank you.

4 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you.

5 Our next speaker will be Anne Williams.

6 Anne Williams.

7 MS. WILLIAMS: Good evening. I'm Anne
8 Williams with the Central City Association. That's
9 A-n-n-e, W-i-l-l-i-a-m-s.

10 Central City Association represents over
11 400 businesses employing nearly 350,000 people
12 across Los Angeles County, and we're here today to
13 support AT&T as a longstanding community partner
14 that does pay modest membership dues to support our
15 organization's civic leadership. In this way and
16 many others AT&T is an outstanding member of a
17 dwindling group of civically engaged companies in
18 Los Angeles.

19 And we're excited about the merger because
20 the result will be greater than the sum of its
21 parts. AT&T and T-Mobile's nearly identical
22 technology platforms will enable the resulting
23 network to free up space, better accommodate future
24 growth with minimal disruption to the public.

25 And businesses of all sizes have come to

1 rely on cell phone service in a way that cannot be
2 underestimated. If you live or work in a place that
3 has spotty reception, you know how much bad cell
4 service impedes your productivity. So AT&T is also
5 committed to investing 8 billion private sector
6 dollars to ensure that virtually all Californians
7 have access to reliable cell phone service.

8 AT&T is really a part of the civic fabric
9 of Los Angeles, and we are so pleased to be able to
10 support the company that will take Los Angeles
11 businesses into the 21st Century. So we're in
12 strong support of the merger.

13 Thank you.

14 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you.

15 Our next speaker is Tom Caravella.

16 MR. CAMARELLA: It's Tom Camarella,
17 C-a-m-a-r-e-l-l-a. I'm a resident of Culver City
18 and I'm speaking on behalf of Culver City Democratic
19 Club and the Progressive Democrats of Los Angeles.

20 Originally AT&T was the Big Daddy, four
21 decades ago. And they were broken up for a reason,
22 because they were too powerful, and the antitrust
23 law, some word that a lot of people don't know about
24 that are younger. They stifled creativity. They
25 were a monopoly. They had less diversity and less

1 innovation because they were so big.

2 Now, if you put the two companies together,
3 are you happy with your service now with the
4 companies? Because it's going to get worse, because
5 with less companies you get less...reliability.
6 They don't take care of your problems.

7 Look, unions and jobs. It seems that we've
8 had a public lobotomy here. The fact is, in the
9 last 15 years we've seen gigantic corporations get
10 together, and each time, what happened? It was
11 great for a few months, and then all of a sudden
12 they got rid of so many jobs it was incredible. And
13 it's been a total slide.

14 We know that that's going to happen. Don't
15 be penny-wise and pound foolish by thinking, God,
16 we're going to get all these jobs right now. Well,
17 you're also going to get a lot of layoffs, which
18 means being fired. When big corporations merge, you
19 just ultimately lose.

20 And please mark my words: This looks good,
21 but in the long run it's not going to be good for
22 this country. It's not going to be good for our
23 citizens. And don't forget the rates, because once
24 you have less companies, the rates can go up easily.

25 Thank you.

1 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you.

2 Tony Bedolla. Next on the list that I've
3 been provided is Tony Bedolla from The Public
4 Advisor.

5 MR. BEDOLLA: It's alive.

6 Tony Bedolla, T-o-n-y, B-e-d-o-l-l-a.

7 I am here representing the Orange County
8 Professional Firefighters, roughly 850 men and women
9 protecting 23 cities, 1.2 million citizens in the
10 County of Orange.

11 While there's a lot of discussion regarding
12 business, economy, jobs, et cetera, my primary focus
13 is going to be on public safety and the vital role
14 that this merger will play.

15 As we progress, more and more residents are
16 eliminating landlines, and we believe this is an
17 effective and efficient wireless system -- I'm
18 sorry -- we believe an effective and efficient
19 wireless system needs to be capable of calling all
20 residents on their cell phones at times of
21 emergency, even when they are not at home.

22 I can only tell you anecdotally, living in
23 the city of Anaheim, there is a program the city
24 sponsors called Anaheim Alert, and in fact I got a
25 text message today, just ensuring that it (A), did

1 work, and (B), if I wanted to update my information,
2 that it directed me to do that.

3 Having that mobility will also enhance the
4 reverse 911 systems that many cities are starting to
5 adopt in order to inform their citizens of a natural
6 disaster or emergency services.

7 This merger will also enhance a system that
8 we use called Alert OC within the Orange County Fire
9 Authority. I'm not here on behalf of that
10 organization, but this is a program that we use that
11 allows us to contact our firefighters in the event
12 of an emergency, and this system was used not once
13 but twice in the recent fires that took place in
14 Carbon Canyon.

15 For those of you who aren't aware of the
16 geography, that's up on the northeast corner of the
17 county, bordering Los Angeles.

18 The Orange County Firefighters also, in
19 light of -- I'm sorry. The Orange County
20 Firefighters utilize an 800 megahertz trunking
21 system in order to communicate from unit to unit.
22 During emergencies where there's a high usage of
23 both men -- sorry -- both firefighters and
24 equipment, these trunk lines easily get overloaded.

25 As a result of the advent of wireless

1 technology, more and more of our command system is
2 utilizing wireless technology in order to
3 communicate with others that are not necessarily
4 needed to communicate via the 800 megahertz system,
5 particularly during wildfires, earthquakes and any
6 other possible emergencies that may occur.

7 We believe the merger between AT&T -- wow,
8 that was fast -- will further meet these objectives,
9 and we are in support of this.

10 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you, Mr. Bedolla.

11 Julia Russell.

12 And after Ms. Russell -- are you still
13 here, ma'am? No. Okay.

14 So it looked like there were two more
15 speakers from your group and that was it.

16 MR. GNAIZDA: I believe so.

17 JUDGE MACDONALD: The two people with the
18 translator who were waiting, and then we'll return
19 to the list.

20 Again, one minute. Please spell your name
21 for us.

22 MS. PANDURO: (Through the interpreter)
23 Sylvia Panduro is P-a-n-d-u-r-o.

24 As a resident of Boyle Heights and a
25 customer of AT&T for five years, I think that this

1 merger is going to be good for the improvement of
2 the service. It's going to improve the service, and
3 I've had a very good experience with that company.

4 Thank you.

5 MR. PEREZ: Hello. My name is Eduardo
6 Perez, E-d-u-a-r-d-o, P-e-r-e-z. I'm a community
7 college student at ELAC.

8 AT&T is forward-thinking company, makes it
9 possible for more people to connect via the
10 internet. I stand here today urging the approval of
11 AT&T/T-Mobile merger. It's good for California and
12 good for my community.

13 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you.

14 So I'm going to list the next two speakers.
15 The first one can speak and the next one knows that
16 they're up next. This is from the sign-up sheet.

17 Samuel Kang.

18 MR. KANG: Good evening. My name is Samuel
19 Kang. I am a civil rights attorney, and I'll be
20 speaking for myself this evening, but for full
21 disclosure, Your Honor, I do work for the
22 Greenlining Institute. I'm their general counsel.
23 And for further disclosure, Greenlining is a current
24 recipient of AT&T support.

25 I'd like to begin by thanking the

1 leadership here today, President Peevey,
2 Commissioner Sandoval, and Your Honor, as well as
3 Assemblyman Bradford, who is in the audience today,
4 for being here and leading this hearing. These
5 hearings are necessary to get public input, and I'd
6 very much like to commend you for doing that.

7 AT&T does have a stellar record over the
8 last several years in philanthropy, workforce and
9 management diversity, and supplier diversity. By
10 these measures AT&T is a good corporate citizen, but
11 I oppose this merger. Here's why: What AT&T is
12 telling the community has been completely different,
13 if not conflicting, with what they have filed with
14 the FCC, the decision-makers who say whether this
15 merger is going to be approved or not.

16 And I'll give you two examples. Jobs:
17 There are retail stores, T-Mobile and AT&T, that are
18 located right across the street from one another in
19 urban specific areas all across the country. Some
20 of those stores are going to close. And the jobs
21 that are most at risk in those stores are not
22 unionized and the most vulnerable among us. AT&T
23 has not addressed the question of how these job
24 closures will be prevented. Tens of thousands of
25 these vulnerable jobs could be lost.

1 Second is the impact on customer service.
2 It's no secret that AT&T has some problems with
3 dropped calls, but from what I've read in the FCC
4 filings, it seems that AT&T is planning to drop
5 customers, specifically low-income customers,
6 because their business plan is not reflecting
7 incorporating these low-income customers that is the
8 majority of T-Mobile's market base.

9 A good corporate citizen is consistent with
10 what it says. A good corporate citizen is
11 transparent. A good corporate citizen answers
12 questions. President Peevey, Commissioner Sandoval,
13 we urge you to compel AT&T to answer these questions
14 and demonstrate how its merger will reflect its
15 past.

16 Thank you.

17 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you.

18 Mark Toney. And after that will be Valarie
19 Gomez.

20 MR. TONEY: Mark Toney, M-a-r-k, T-o-n-e-y.

21 I'm executive director of TURN, The Utility
22 Reform Network, and we are here to ask the
23 Commission to reject the proposed AT&T acquisition
24 of T-Mobile for several reasons.

25 When it comes to a consumer perspective,

1 that is, the customer perspective, what is most
2 disturbing about AT&T acquiring T-Mobile is when it
3 comes to prices, AT&T prices are much higher than
4 T-Mobile's. When it comes to customer service, AT&T
5 has the lowest customer satisfaction of any company.

6 You know, it's almost, from a customer
7 standpoint, it would have been better if this
8 proposal was switched around, if T-Mobile were the
9 one looking to acquire AT&T. Because then, you
10 know, I think people would welcome the prospect of
11 AT&T prices being brought down to what T-Mobile
12 prices are. I think people would be a lot more
13 excited about the customer service quality and
14 standards and satisfaction of AT&T being raised up
15 to the satisfaction of T-Mobile customers.

16 So there are -- and when it comes to the
17 issue of jobs, we believe, based upon past
18 experience of past mergers that AT&T has been
19 involved in, we think from the experience of AT&T
20 being allowed into the cable franchise under DIVCA
21 that in fact what we are going to see are job
22 losses, not job gains, in terms of the track record.

23 So for these reasons, TURN does oppose the
24 AT&T acquisition of T-Mobile.

25 Thank you.

1 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you.

2 Valarie Gomez, and then after Ms. Gomez we
3 will have Edyael Casaperalta.

4 MS. GOMEZ: Hi, President Peevey. I'm very
5 honored to be here, Commissioner Sandoval and
6 Administrative Law Judge Ms. MacDonald. Thank you
7 very much for having me today.

8 My name is Valarie Gomez, and I'm the CEO
9 of the YMCA of West San Gabriel Valley, serving the
10 cities of San Gabriel, Alhambra, Monterey Park,
11 Rosemead, and El Monte.

12 And I'm very excited to be here, and I, on
13 behalf of our YMCA board and the cities I represent,
14 are in excitement of the merger of AT&T and
15 T-Mobile, and the reason why is because of their
16 civic stewardship that they give back to the
17 community. Yes, do we receive funds, but they've
18 changed -- they have changed lives that have made
19 memories that will last a lifetime.

20 And with that said, they reach the at-risk
21 kids, the homeless. The funding that we received
22 from AT&T was a huge -- made a huge impact within
23 our community and continues to do so.

24 We have one young lady, because of the
25 state economy and downturn of our economy, one young

1 lady, Anisa Ochoa, 14 years old, Down's syndrome,
2 State of California cut our budget by \$325,000, and
3 with that she was unable to continue her swim
4 lessons. So being legal in the State of California
5 to hire her, I hired her. And she now works at our
6 Y.

7 But with that, her family was a very proud
8 family and one that did not want to accept a
9 donation of -- from our Y. So here AT&T comes along
10 and gives us an opportunity to give her swim
11 lessons, which increases the opportunity for her to
12 come to our Y, to exercise, to stay within a healthy
13 wellness weight, and to have friends, but also the
14 opportunity for employment that we have to fund her.

15 Can we change the opportunities that AT&T
16 does and commits to do? Only with the positive
17 improvement and opportunities that they have. They
18 are civically minded, and we thank you very much.

19 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you.

20 Our next speaker is Edyael Casaperalta.
21 Following that is Prentis Hemphill.

22 I apologize if I am damaging anyone's name.

23 MS. CASAPERALTA: Good afternoon,
24 Commissioners. My name is Edyael Casaperalta,
25 E-d-y-a-e-l, last name is C-a-s-a-p-e-r-a-l-t-a.

1 I'm here as a resident of Highland Park,
2 and I want to express my opposition to this takeover
3 of T-Mobile. To highlight that, I wanted to share a
4 story of my mom calling me, really concerned about
5 the potential takeover of AT&T over T-Mobile, and
6 expressing her concern about how, without the low
7 prices that T-Mobile is providing for family plans,
8 she would have to cut service on my little
9 brothers -- both of my little brothers' cell phone
10 access. She just simply cannot afford AT&T prices.
11 They are way too high.

12 And I think that this merger would show --
13 would impose an extra burden on low-income families,
14 on poor communities that cannot afford AT&T prices
15 or devices or the fees to disconnect or to do any
16 transactions with them. So this is a really bad
17 deal for low-income communities.

18 I'm also here to represent rural voices. I
19 am a coordinator for the Rural Broadband Policy
20 Group, which is a national coalition of rural
21 advocates for fast, affordable, and reliable
22 internet service.

23 As -- to include rural voices in this
24 conversation, I want to highlight that this merger,
25 if it's approved, will have no impact in

1 connectivity to rural communities. It contributes
2 nothing in connectivity to rural communities. And
3 even if AT&T did want to extend service to rural
4 communities, it does not need \$39 billion to buy
5 T-Mobile. It can use that money already. It can
6 certainly invest all of that money in underserved
7 rural and urban communities, but it does not need to
8 acquire T-Mobile in order to provide those services.

9 So I cannot stress that any more. It would
10 kill jobs. It would burden low-income consumers.
11 It would limit competition. It would add extra
12 hurdles for small rural -- for rural providers that
13 are providing service, unlike AT&T in rural areas.

14 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you.

15 Next -- next we have Prentis Hemphill, and
16 then we will have Camille Levee.

17 MS. HEMPHILL: Hi. My name is Prentis,
18 that's P-r-e-n-t-i-s, H-e-m-p-h-i-l-l, and I'm
19 speaking today -- thank you for allowing me to
20 speak -- I'm speaking simply as a citizen. I'm a
21 nonprofit fund-raiser, and I don't do any work on
22 telecommunications or anything like that, but I just
23 wanted to come talk to you about my feelings about
24 the merger.

25 I think in many ways this is a

1 conversation -- this consolidation conversation is
2 little bit too late. I think we should have been
3 having this conversation when there were five
4 providers instead of three, potentially.

5 So I hear a lot about jobs, and I think
6 it's important that everyone is feeling like we need
7 more jobs, clearly. That's up in California and
8 nationally, but I'm unclear as to how a merger is
9 going to provide the jobs that we're looking for,
10 and I haven't heard anyone provide any mathematics
11 who can speak to that or any particular data. But I
12 think it's rare, if at all, that a corporate merger
13 has provided many jobs.

14 And I think to speak to the corporate
15 philanthropic sentiment that I've heard expressed
16 here, as a fund-raiser, as a person with experience
17 in fund-raising, I don't believe that the few
18 scholarships that corporations provide or the
19 support to a few nonprofits and grants the size of
20 \$20,000, \$30,000 necessarily can really impact the
21 face that we're going to lose thousands of jobs. So
22 if you're giving a scholarship to one kid, you're
23 actually supporting the loss of a job for a T-Mobile
24 parent, a T-Mobile neighbor, thousands and thousands
25 of jobs.

1 So if we could move towards sustainability
2 and long-term thinking and away from the short-term
3 thinking and greed, I think would be better for our
4 nation and for our communities at large. And I
5 think it also is a testament to the power of the
6 dollar that there are so many people who are
7 speaking on behalf of AT&T when they have the lowest
8 customer service rates and tiered data plans that
9 are designed to take your money at higher and higher
10 rates.

11 So I just want us to think about that for a
12 second and think about the real impact, long-term
13 impact of this merger.

14 Thank you.

15 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you.

16 Our next speaker is Camille Levee, and
17 following Ms. Levy is Irene Todd.

18 MS. LEVEE: Good evening. My name is
19 Camille Levee. It's C-a-m-i-l-l-e, l-e-v- as in
20 Victor, -e-e.

21 I am here as the CEO and representing the
22 board of directors of Glendale Healthy Kids. We are
23 a unique, private nonprofit that for the past almost
24 18 years has been providing healthcare access to our
25 virtual clinic for children of parents who are low

1 income, un- and underinsured, and we do it all
2 without government funding.

3 We are excited about the merger. Those of
4 us in nonprofits realize that we have to collaborate
5 and work together to share our resources to be able
6 to maximize those resources and benefit the
7 community.

8 Being in the healthcare profession, we see
9 that this opportunity provides our parents easy,
10 fast accessibility to the resources that they need.
11 I remember picking up a prescription from a doctor's
12 office, hand-carrying it to a pharmacy so that a
13 parent could get the medication that their child
14 needed so they could go back to work.

15 Fortunately, now it's the click of an iPad,
16 the click of an iPod; that prescription is at the
17 pharmacy; the parent has the medication that they
18 need for their child. And they can go into that
19 wonderful cloud that will allow them access to learn
20 about preventative healthcare as well.

21 This merger integrates all of that
22 technology and builds the resources that we need.

23 Thank you.

24 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you.

25 Next it looks like Irene Todd.

1 MAN: Can you ask people proactively to say
2 whether or not they receive? When they step up they
3 have to proactively say I do not receive or I do
4 receive? Because I get the impression that --

5 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you. I have asked
6 people to make that statement.

7 WOMAN: Can we ask what sign-up page you're
8 on?

9 JUDGE MACDONALD: Page 1.

10 WOMAN: One?

11 JUDGE MACDONALD: Next after Irene is
12 Tchanna McBride. Thank you.

13 MS. TODD: Good afternoon. My name is
14 Trene Todd, T-r-e-n-e, T-o-d-d. I represent Unified
15 Reserve, a nonprofit organization in Northridge.

16 Unified Reserve allows college students to
17 volunteer their services to help others, which
18 promotes education values and family values. We
19 strongly believe in communication which allows us to
20 reach out to other associations on campus.

21 We support the combining of T-Mobile and
22 AT&T because wireless is about today and the future.
23 Myself and committee are the first generation to
24 grow up in a world where cell phones have become as
25 essential as gasoline and electricity. Without the

1 technology that a 4G and beyond network supply, we
2 wouldn't be able to organize our events. Our events
3 depend on sending out important emails on the go.

4 We even need it to add information to our
5 website which others can view from their mobile
6 devices.

7 Volunteering is much more than a cell
8 phone. The internet and social media like Facebook,
9 YouTube, email, and Google allow us to merge with
10 specialists and organizations to create and attend
11 voluntary events. It's one thing to open an
12 invitation at home, but it's even convenient to open
13 it on the go.

14 Without an advanced, speedy network like
15 the one envisioned by AT&T and T-Mobile, our
16 services may become unknown. Please help our state
17 retain its reputation as an innovator and
18 technological leader by approving the merger as
19 quickly as possible.

20 Thank you.

21 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you.

22 The next speaker -- is Tchanna McBride.

23 Following that, Richard Heffernan.

24 MS. MCBRIDE: Hi. Tatianna McBride.

25 JUDGE MACDONALD: Tatianna. I apologize

1 again for mutilating names.

2 MS. MCBRIDE: T-a-t-i-a-n-n-a,
3 M-c-b-r-i-d-e.

4 And good afternoon. My name is Tatianna
5 McBride, and I represent the Radio Television
6 Digital News Association chapter of California State
7 University Northridge.

8 RTDNA has student chapters at colleges and
9 universities throughout the US, and our mission is
10 to foster cooperation and improve communication
11 among students, educators, and working professionals
12 in radio, television and online news.

13 We support the combining of T-Mobile and
14 AT&T because wireless is our future. My fellow
15 students and I are one of the first generations to
16 grow up in the wireless world. We live in a digital
17 age that is increasingly wireless, which is one of
18 the reasons we added the word "digital" to our
19 organization's name.

20 As future electronic journalists, having a
21 robust 4G and beyond network will facilitate how we
22 cover the news, file our stories, and produce the
23 content that will be seen and heard by a worldwide
24 audience using our mobile devices.

25 The future of journalism is much more than

1 just a cell phone. The internet and social media
2 such as Facebook, YouTube, Yahoo, Twitter make it
3 news so it can be seen by everyone. But without an
4 advanced, speedy network like the one envisioned by
5 AT&T and T-Mobile, we as journalists may become a
6 little obsolete.

7 Please support our state's innovative
8 reputation by approving the merger as quickly as
9 possible.

10 Thank you.

11 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you.

12 Our next speaker is Richard Heffernan,
13 followed by Kathryn Evans.

14 MR. HEFFERNAN: Good afternoon. My name is
15 Richard Heffernan. It's R-i-c-h-a-r-d,
16 H-e-f-f-e-r-n-a-n.

17 President Peevey, Commissioner Sandoval,
18 Judge MacDonald, thank you for the opportunity to
19 speak here today.

20 I'm a teacher at Palos Verdes High School
21 and also a soccer coach. I'm here today in support
22 of the proposed merger. As an educator, I support
23 this merger in the hopes that it will provide
24 greater wireless access for members of our
25 faculty -- and I speak as an individual, not on

1 behalf of my school -- as well as our students.

2 In my economics class, students work in
3 teams on a stock market-based project. It's
4 web-based. Ideally students would have access to
5 their own computer, but our computer lab only has 32
6 terminals. Class sizes now average 36, and that
7 number is growing.

8 To overcome this, we ask students to use
9 their wireless devices to access the internet to
10 research stocks and to make investments. We are
11 fortunate to have one-third of our students with
12 such devices, like iPhones and iPads, so we use them
13 to supplement the learning process. I believe we
14 will continue to see educational opportunities tied
15 to new web-based technology, and so improving the
16 wireless access is critical.

17 As a coach, it makes my job more efficient
18 to be able to communicate with my players and their
19 parents in the case of schedule changes, inclement
20 weather, or in the unfortunate case of injuries. So
21 anything that you can do to enhance our wireless
22 networks would be a win for education.

23 Thank you for this opportunity to allow me
24 to voice my support for this merger.

25 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you.

1 Our next speaker is Kathryn Evans, followed
2 by Ben Mis- -- Mishke.

3 MS. EVANS: Hello. My name is Kathryn
4 Evans. That's K-a-t-h-r-y-n, E-v-a-n-s.

5 I'm here as a member of the community; I
6 live in Los Angeles, and I support the merger of
7 T-Mobile and AT&T.

8 As someone who's grown up in the wireless
9 world, it's unfortunate that I chose my carrier
10 because they're the only provider where I lived. I
11 didn't have a choice. So I support this merger
12 because it will increase access and increase choice
13 for wireless consumers.

14 And it's not just about increasing access
15 to wireless telephone service, but it's also about
16 increasing access to wireless broadband service.
17 Like the last speaker said, and as someone who's a
18 first-generation college graduate and someone who
19 just recently concluded my master's degree, my
20 parents sacrificed everything they could to give me
21 the things that I needed to get ahead.

22 And like the last teacher just said, in a
23 lot of cases in education today, that means internet
24 access, and this merger will allow more students and
25 more families to have internet access at home, where

1 they can use this technology to succeed and to get
2 ahead.

3 Thank you very much.

4 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you.

5 So I apologize if I can't make out this
6 name, but it's Ben -- it looks like M-i-s-h or -k?

7 MR. MISKIE: That's a K.

8 JUDGE MACDONALD: Oh, great. Thank you.

9 And following Mr. Miskie will be Kelvin
10 Calloway.

11 MR. MISKIE: My name is Ben Miskie,
12 M-i-s-k-i-e. I represent no groups at all, just the
13 public consumer, and I am receiving no financial
14 incentives from AT&T.

15 I guess I just have -- I just need to point
16 out some facts here, because I keep hearing a lot of
17 things that are not factual.

18 AT&T is not necessarily a great company for
19 the consumer. They're actually the last in consumer
20 satisfaction. AT&T has more dropped calls than any
21 other major wireless provider. And after this
22 merger, if this merger goes through, there will be
23 zero national competitors for GSM phones. So I'm
24 trying to figure out how this is good for the
25 consumer because I'm just not seeing it.

1 Thank you.

2 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you.

3 Next is -- I'm sorry -- Kelvin Calloway,
4 and following that -- yeah, Kelvin. And then I
5 can't read this. M --

6 PRESIDENT PEEVEY: Dennis?

7 JUDGE MACDONALD: No. Dennis has already
8 spoken.

9 Preston M. Johnson, perhaps?

10 PRESIDENT PEEVEY: Johansen?

11 JUDGE MACDONALD: Johansen?

12 PRESIDENT PEEVEY: Is Kevin Calloway here?

13 JUDGE MACDONALD: Kevin or Kelvin?

14 Okay. Moving on, Faith Bautista. She
15 spoke.

16 Christine Johnson.

17 MS. JOHNSON: That's me.

18 JUDGE MACDONALD: Okay, great. And then
19 Leslie Gerisoff.

20 MS. JOHNSON: Good afternoon. My name is
21 Lestean Johnson, L-e-s-t-e-a-n, J-o-h-n-s-o-n. I'm
22 the president of the Compton Chamber of Commerce,
23 and I'm also a small business entrepreneur. And I
24 stand in support of the merger of AT&T with
25 T-Mobile.

1 AT&T, it's already been stated, has an
2 impeccable record. If there is to be a merger, it
3 should be with a company that has such a record, as
4 well as transparency.

5 The broadband internet, as we already know,
6 is no longer a necessity -- is no longer a luxury;
7 it's a necessity for our day-to-day lives. And the
8 merger of AT&T with T-Mobile will serve to close the
9 digital divide and increase services to urban and
10 rural areas. By approving this acquisition, the
11 Commission will impact millions of Americans as well
12 as generations to come.

13 I did hear a statement that said about
14 dropped calls. I would like to end by saying it's
15 not about dropped calls, and to quote President
16 Obama in saying, this is about connecting every part
17 of America to the digital age.

18 So I stand stating that I ask that you go
19 ahead and approve this merger with AT&T and
20 T-Mobile.

21 Thank you for your time.

22 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you.

23 Next is Leslie Gerisoff -- Geriskoff?

24 Following that, Andree Driskell.

25 THE WITNESS: My name is Leslie

1 Gersicoff -- excuse me -- L-e-s-l-i-e,
2 G-e-r-s-i-c-o-f-f. Excuse me.

3 Good evening. I'm the executive director
4 of the Jewish Labor Committee, and I'm here tonight
5 to speak for organized labor, which means unions.

6 My home union is Nabet-CWA Local 53. I've
7 seen from the inside many mergers, both in the
8 communications world and in unions themselves.
9 Nothing is perfect, but all mergers bring with them
10 change.

11 The organized labor is under attack in this
12 country. What Maria Elena Durazo had mentioned was
13 that overnight, 20,000 workers could suddenly be
14 represented, is an amazing, amazing thing. That
15 they could go from having no contract, no defined
16 terms with recourse if those terms are not honored
17 overnight is a precedent that the Jewish Labor
18 Committee would like to support, as well as this
19 merger.

20 Thank you.

21 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you.

22 Andree Driskell. Following Andree Driskell
23 is Chris Baccus.

24 Are either Andree Driskell or Chris Baccus
25 here?

1 MR. BACCUS: I'm Chris.

2 JUDGE MACDONALD: Come on up, Chris.

3 MR. BACCUS: All right. My name is Chris
4 Baccus, that's C-h-r-i-s, B-a-c-c-u-s. I'm the
5 executive director of Concerned Citizens Community
6 Involvement. We're a ministry of the Southside
7 Church of Christ in Los Angeles, where Dr. Baccus is
8 the minister, and we serve over 1,600 members.

9 We're here to lend our support for this
10 merger. As AT&T and T-Mobile merge, we believe new
11 opportunities will arise in our community for access
12 to digital technology that is currently not being
13 serviced well in our community, the mobile
14 technology that -- via 4G wireless technology that
15 will be used via AT&T and T-Mobile.

16 And we believe that the service will be
17 better because there will be more towers that AT&T
18 will already -- that are already in existence will
19 be able to access that are already there and be able
20 to provide better service with that technology.

21 Also, to close the digital divide, we
22 believe that this wireless technology will help do
23 that in the African-American and Latino communities
24 that we represent. As stated by President Obama,
25 his goal is to get wireless technology to 98 percent

1 of Americans, and we believe that this will help in
2 that strategy.

3 And then finally, check AT&T's record. The
4 number one in diversity supplier in California.
5 Excuse me. We believe that that alone will create
6 jobs, because they will be looking -- in our
7 community because they will be looking for smaller
8 businesses to help in the diversity supplier goals,
9 to improve their diversity suppliers, and that
10 effect will employ more people in our communities.

11 Finally, we have no concern over their
12 pricing, and we believe that if the CPUC approves
13 the lifeline use for wireless technology, that that
14 will help with low-income and moderate-income
15 individuals the access to be able to use that
16 lifeline for their mobile technology, thus lowering
17 the costs for mobile technology to low-income
18 individuals.

19 So we ask the C- -- CPUC to please support
20 the merger of AT&T and T-Mobile.

21 Thank you.

22 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you.

23 Next we have John Wogan and Inez Gonzalez.

24 MR. WOGAN: My name is John Wogan. I'm the
25 president of the Carson Chamber of Commerce, and I'm

1 here today representing the Carson Chamber and the
2 South Bay Association of Chambers of Commerce.

3 THE REPORTER: Can you spell your name,
4 please.

5 MR. WOGAN: Wogan is W-o-g-a-n. And John
6 is J-o-h-n.

7 Commerce via the internet provides
8 businesses with new models for reaching out to
9 customers. The coming of mobile E-commerce has been
10 the most significant communications technology
11 development over the last few years.

12 At this point a lot of Americans are
13 broadband have-nots because they live in communities
14 where high-speed wireless data is not available or
15 they are unable to afford the service. Adoption of
16 public policies to encourage wireless service
17 providers to invest capital in their networks would
18 help expand opportunities for buyers and sellers,
19 stimulate economic growth, and close the digital
20 divide between broadband haves and have-nots.

21 The proposed merger between wireless
22 providers AT&T and T-Mobile USA is the right step in
23 the right direction. Approval of the merger will
24 enable the companies to enhance and expand their
25 networks with more 4G wireless technology. The

1 merged companies plan to invest \$8 billion over the
2 next several years to build their infrastructure, a
3 move that would result in the availability of
4 high-speed wireless service to 97.3 percent of the
5 country.

6 Both the Carson Chamber and the South Bay
7 Association of Chambers of Commerce stand in support
8 of this merger and urge you to do the same.

9 Thank you.

10 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you.

11 Next speaker is Inez Gonzalez, followed by
12 John Donner.

13 MS. GONZALEZ: Thank you. Good evening.
14 My name is Inez, I-n-e-z, Gonzalez, G-o-n-z-a-l-e-z.

15 I'm the executive vice president for the
16 National Hispanic Media Coalition. We're a
17 25-year-old advocacy organization that focuses on
18 media and telecommunications policy issues as it
19 concerns the Latino community and other people of
20 color.

21 We strongly oppose this merger. We have
22 filed a petition at the FCC. We oppose it because
23 this will consolidate an already very consolidated
24 market. It's going to eliminate the carrier that
25 provides the most affordable plans, and it's going

1 to make Verizon and AT&T have 80 percent control of
2 the market. There's no way that this can be good
3 for competition.

4 The consolidation, as I said, eliminates
5 one of the country's low-cost nationwide carriers.
6 T-Mobile affordable plans are utilized by many
7 Latinos. Many -- 25 percent of Latinos live under
8 the poverty lines, and they will be negatively
9 impacted.

10 The takeover will result in the loss of an
11 estimated 20,000 jobs at a time when our country's
12 fragile economy cannot afford it. I strongly
13 encourage you to take a strong stand for consumers
14 and for this country. Consumers are struggling.
15 They can't afford higher prices, and we can't afford
16 the loss of 20,000 jobs.

17 Thank you.

18 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you.

19 John Donner. Following Mr. Donner, Robin
20 McCarthy.

21 MR. DONNER: Good afternoon. I'm John
22 Donner. I'm here today representing the Weingart
23 Center, a transitional residential program for
24 previously homeless men and women living on skid
25 row.

1 However --

2 THE REPORTER: Spell your name, sir.

3 MR. DONNER: Oh, I'm sorry. It's John,
4 J-o-h-n, Donner, D-o-n-n-e-r.

5 I should also note that I'm a recent
6 retiree of AT&T, and that in its 26-year history,
7 the Weingart Center has received contributions from
8 all of AT&T's predecessors, either Pacific Bell or
9 SBC.

10 I'm currently the director of donor
11 relations for the Weingart Center, and we all have a
12 vested interest in seeing that cutting edge
13 communications technology is dependable, robust, and
14 easily accessible.

15 And homeless people use wireless
16 communications too. We have two computer labs where
17 they get education, job training, job search.
18 Through a new donation we will be setting up a
19 wireless kiosk that will allow homeless people to
20 send and receive email messages.

21 We feel that -- we're in support of the
22 merger, of course. We also believe that the
23 combined efficiencies in spectrum, as well as
24 greater network capacity, will result in improved
25 voice and data services for AT&T and T-Mobile

1 customers.

2 Thank you.

3 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you.

4 Next is Robin McCarthy, followed by Joyce
5 Ellenson.

6 MS. MCCARTHY: Good afternoon. My name is
7 Robin McCarthy, M-c, capital C-a-r-t-h-y. I'm the
8 executive director of Women At Work. We're a
9 32-year-old nonprofit based in Pasadena, and we have
10 received support from AT&T.

11 Women at Work helps women and men find
12 employment, train for new jobs, and have better
13 skills, including everything from resume creation
14 and job interview skills to technology training and
15 our job databank. Because of our strong commitment
16 to employment, I'm here to advocate for the merger
17 of AT&T and T-Mobile.

18 We have witnessed more women entering into
19 union jobs, and this merger will increase their job
20 opportunities. A union wage provides for better
21 standard of living and, of course, benefits for the
22 many single mothers we see who are looking for ways
23 to support their families. We know that women are
24 often the main provider in many families today, and
25 their wages, even in a two-income family is

1 certainly not a luxury but a necessity for such
2 basic needs as shelter, food, and even education.

3 Also, employment opportunities, we all
4 know, are not abundant at this time. We do know
5 that the opportunity to put more people to work and
6 expanding the network and working in the
7 communications industry is a prime prospect.

8 Regarding communications access, T-Mobile
9 recently admitted it wasn't far away from running
10 short on capacity itself.

11 My organization teaches social networking
12 skills to older individuals. We provide instruction
13 in everything from LinkedIn to tweeting your way to
14 work. These are skills and knowledge you need to
15 enter and compete in today's job market.

16 Approving this merger will clear the way
17 for the expansion of the higher-speed wireless
18 networks. This increased availability of high-speed
19 wireless, affecting everything from smartphones to
20 laptops to tablets, expands the access for workers,
21 families, and communities.

22 Again, we believe in employment
23 opportunities, advancing skills for others, and
24 better communication access for all. Thank you for
25 this opportunity on behalf of Women at Work, working

1 women and, yes, even working men. Let's get America
2 employed.

3 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you.

4 Next is Joyce Ellison -- Ellenson. I
5 apologize. Followed by Don Nakamoto.

6 MS. ELLENSON: Hi. My name is Joyce,
7 J-o-y-c-e, Ellenson, E-l-l-e-n-s-o-n. I'm here
8 speaking as a private citizen. I'm a piano teacher
9 and nobody has paid me off.

10 And I am so sorry to ruin this lovefest,
11 but may I point out that AT&T is not the most
12 wonderful citizen, corporate citizen. I have here a
13 copy of the Constitution of the United States and
14 may I read to you Amendment 4 (as read):

15 The right of the People to be
16 secure in their persons, houses,
17 papers and effects against
18 unreasonable searches and seizures
19 shall not be violated, and no
20 warrants shall issue but upon
21 probable cause, supported by oath or
22 affirmation, and particularly
23 describing the place to be searched
24 and the persons or things to be
25 seized.

1 AT&T violated the fourth amendment to the
2 Constitution. Maybe some of you remember when AT&T
3 was caught in this private room collecting all of
4 our emails. Well, unfortunately, a bunch of people
5 in the Senate, including President Obama, who was
6 then in the Senate, voted to give AT&T immunity from
7 prosecution. A little sad.

8 And I'm really stunned. I mean, I am no
9 historian, but when in history has a monopoly ever
10 been in the public interest ever? So I'm really
11 astounded at the propaganda. And, you know, sure,
12 pay people off, give them a grant, and you've got
13 them on their side.

14 This will not be in the public interest.
15 It's been said before, jobs will be cut, rates will
16 go up, and what little customer service exists at
17 this point will go away.

18 I have my cell phone service through
19 T-Mobile. I've been quite happy with T-Mobile, and
20 I called them the other day and said, you know, gee,
21 I hear AT&T is going to be taking over T-Mobile.

22 Well, they acted like this was already a
23 done deal. In fact, they were already telling me
24 how all the plans were going to be the same, don't
25 worry, your price won't go up -- at least not right

1 away.

2 So it really makes me wonder if this isn't
3 simply theater here.

4 Thank you.

5 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you.

6 Don Nakamoto. Don Nakamoto, followed by
7 Russell -- Russell Brammer.

8 MR. NAKAMOTO: Good afternoon,
9 Commissioners, Judge. It's Don Nakamoto, D-o-n,
10 N-a-k-a-m-o-t-o.

11 I'm the executive director of the Verdugo
12 Workforce Investment Board. We represent -- we
13 receive federal and state funding. By the way, we
14 do -- I've received a grant in the past from the
15 AT&T Foundation. We provide employment and training
16 services and also business assistance in the
17 Glendale, Burbank, and La Canada area.

18 We support -- I'm sorry, I'm speaking on
19 behalf of myself today. I support this merger, and
20 I want to focus on the jobs area. I believe that
21 the impact of this merger will result in significant
22 job creation.

23 Since the start of the recession, really
24 it's been small businesses that has bore the brunt
25 of the recession in terms of job losses. But even

1 today, two years into the recovery, we're still
2 seeing additional unemployment. The unemployment
3 rate has actually risen since the end of the
4 recession in my area and also L.A. County.

5 One of the reasons for that is business,
6 small businesses having trouble accessing loans.
7 They're also having competitive issues in terms of
8 inferior technology. And so that's one of the
9 reasons I think that this merger will create more
10 opportunity for small business to access better
11 technology.

12 One of the studies that we took a look at
13 was from the Economic Policy Institute, and they say
14 that 96,000 new, high-paying jobs will be created as
15 a result of this merger within the next seven years.

16 Also, we have a significant presence of
17 AT&T currently within our region. There are 700
18 AT&T internet-related jobs, and we believe this
19 merger will add to that job creation in our local
20 area.

21 Finally, we have a big entertainment
22 industry, arguably the largest concentration of
23 entertainment workers in the world. Companies like
24 Disney, DreamWorks, Warner Bros., NBC, ABC are in
25 our region. According to the PriceWaterhouse

1 Coopers study recently, 60 percent of the new jobs
2 that are created in the entertainment field will be
3 related to mobile computing, tablet computing, and
4 the entertainment content that's generated for these
5 devices. And so that's another reason that we
6 strongly support this merger.

7 Thank you for this opportunity.

8 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you.

9 Our next speaker will be Russell Brammer,
10 followed by Pouya Dabiri.

11 WOMAN: Are we on page 1 or page 2?

12 JUDGE MACDONALD: I'm on page 2. There are
13 four pages.

14 MR. BRAMMER: Thank you. My name is
15 Russell Brammer, R-u-s-s-e-l-l, B-r-a-m-m-e-r. I
16 moved here from Texas, and so speaking slowly will
17 not be a problem for me.

18 I am the executive director of the Raise
19 Foundation. It's a child abuse prevention, family
20 strengthening organization in Orange County. We
21 provide services directly to families in some of the
22 most challenged neighborhoods in Orange County.

23 We support the merger because we support
24 anything that would enhance and increase and improve
25 access to wireless services in these neighborhoods,

1 because it's more than a luxury, it's more than a
2 necessity. For many of these families, it is truly
3 a lifeline.

4 We also have in the past applied for and
5 competed for grant funding from AT&T. They're a
6 good corporate citizen, and we have received such
7 funding. Hope we do again in the future. I don't
8 consider myself a paid gun.

9 So thank you very much.

10 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you.

11 And then following Mr. Dabiri, we have Owen
12 Brown.

13 MR. DABIRI: Thank you, Your Honor.

14 My name is Pouya Dabiri, P-o-u-y-a,
15 D-a-b-i-r-i. I'm from Los Angeles, and I'm here in
16 support of the proposal.

17 Members of the Commission, I believe that
18 part of what makes this country so great is the
19 open-market capitalist system that we currently
20 have. In the proposed merger AT&T would become much
21 larger and would be better able to compete with
22 Verizon. In the end I believe this is most
23 beneficial to the consumer because, as these big
24 corporate businesses vie for our business, they will
25 slash prices to gain our interest.

1 So please support the proposal, and thank
2 you for your time.

3 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you.

4 The next speaker is Owen Brown. Following
5 Owen Brown, we're going to take a five-minute break,
6 and I mean a five-minute break so that you can get
7 up, stretch your legs, have some water, use the
8 restroom if you need to, and then we will continue.

9 WOMAN: Parking validation? So I don't
10 have to pay for the parking?

11 JUDGE MACDONALD: Parking, you can discuss
12 that with the hotel.

13 So Mr. Brown?

14 MAN: Is parking being validated or not?

15 WOMAN: Do we have to pay to be here, in
16 other words? Are you making us pay to give our --

17 JUDGE MACDONALD: I would like to ask you
18 to please respect Mr. Brown's time and let him have
19 his three minutes, and then we'll take our break,
20 and I'll be happy to try to find out the answers to
21 those questions.

22 MR. BROWN: Hi, my name's Owen Brown. I
23 was not paid to be here. I'm a financial analyst.

24 I'm holding in my hand the Department of
25 Justice and Federal Trade Commission's merger

1 guidelines. They have a very clear section on
2 market concentration that describes when a market is
3 concentrated, and this document also discusses the
4 effects of market concentration.

5 When this merger goes through, prices will
6 go up; customer service will go down. We've seen
7 this in every industry where consolidation has taken
8 place.

9 So why has the Department of Justice not
10 stepped in to prevent this merger? It's because
11 from 1989 to 2010, AT&T gave \$40 million in lobbying
12 efforts. They bought off the Department of Justice
13 and Washington. That's more than Goldman Sachs.
14 That's more than twice as much as Goldman Sachs,
15 more than the United Auto Workers union, more than
16 any other company.

17 And it's clear from this meeting today that
18 they've bought off a lot of churches and community
19 groups by straight-up giving them money.

20 But I am getting down -- this is not in the
21 consumers' best interests. Our economy is
22 struggling, and I am getting down on my knees and
23 begging you, please, please do what's right for our
24 economy, for our small businesses, for our large
25 businesses, and for our consumers, and not what's

1 right for special interest groups.

2 And one more thing. You guys specifically
3 asked -- you specifically asked how this will affect
4 poor people. T-Mobile has lower costs, which will
5 go up. And everybody here, we've all got it
6 together. We know how to ask for a supervisor. We
7 know how to navigate the system.

8 When poor people get screwed by a big
9 company, all they can do is take it, get screwed,
10 and go to the next one. But when a poor person who
11 maybe doesn't understand the system as well, they
12 get screwed by their telecom provider, if there's
13 only one or two or three to pick from, they're just
14 going to have to take it.

15 You guys ever see the commercial where the
16 little girl, they go, Do you want a pony? And they
17 give her a toy pony. And then the other one goes,
18 Do you want a pony? And he goes, tch-tch, and the
19 real pony comes out. And the guy goes (gesturing).
20 The girl goes, Hey, how come I didn't get a pony?
21 And he goes, You didn't ask.

22 Well, that's the poor people. They're
23 going to pay more because they don't know how to
24 navigate the system. So please, please stop this
25 merger. It's not in America's interest.

1 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you.

2 We will now take a five-minute break. This
3 is not going to be a 15-minute break. It's really
4 going to be a five-minute break. So if you'd like
5 to get up, stretch your legs, we will resume in five
6 minutes.

7 (A recess was taken from 5:57 p.m.
8 to 6:06 p.m.)

9 JUDGE MACDONALD: We will be on the record.
10 The next up is David Abramis.

11 MR. ABRAMIS: Thank you. My name is David
12 Abramis, A-b- as in boy, -r-a-m- as in Mary, -i-s as
13 in Sam. I'm here representing myself. I am not
14 paid by anybody affiliated with this merger.

15 Thank you. I know you've got a really
16 tough job.

17 I am a capitalist. I have started, owned,
18 and operated two businesses, one of which I still
19 run. The other is still running successfully
20 without me. In addition, I am a full professor of
21 business at California State University Long Beach.

22 I'm here tonight to say that I strongly
23 oppose this merger. Even if the involved companies
24 make advance commitments of the types spoken of,
25 requested earlier this evening.

1 Capitalism at its best, specifically with
2 numerous competitors, is a great economic system
3 that produces several things. It produces
4 innovation and creativity, namely new and important
5 products, services, and discoveries. It creates
6 jobs. It makes life and work meaningful and
7 motivating. And it causes competitive pricing for
8 consumers, namely everyone here.

9 But these effects do not manifest
10 efficiently when there are few competitors.
11 Further, in general, there is no historical evidence
12 that mergers in general create jobs. Quite the
13 opposite.

14 I'm an American, and I'm proud of it. I'm
15 particularly proud of the fact that by law, all
16 citizens own the airwaves. They belong to all of
17 us, and they therefore must be managed in such a way
18 as to benefit all of us.

19 I oppose any further limitations of our
20 ownership of our airwaves, particularly regarding
21 this merger. If the merger goes through, it will
22 reduce innovation and creativity, it will increase
23 consumer prices, and it will be a wholly unfair
24 giveaway of the property of all Americans.

25 Thank you.

1 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you.

2 Now, based on the number of speakers that
3 we have remaining, we're on the -- basically halfway
4 through the second page, and we have four full, so
5 that's a total of a hundred speakers.

6 I just need to ask one more time, if
7 there's anybody that is working in the evening or
8 has an urgent need to leave early -- I think this
9 meeting is going to go to about 8:00 -- can you see
10 Karen Miller, the Public Advisor, so that she can
11 just let me know who you are. We want to make sure
12 that we hear as many of you as possible. So if you
13 just speak with Karen Miller.

14 My next request is that if you have five
15 comments, for example, and one has been made by the
16 speaker in front of you, if you could just make the
17 four, we can get everybody through and get everybody
18 home.

19 So the next speaker is Parker McFarlane,
20 followed by David Baier.

21 Mr. McFarlane?

22 MR. MCFARLANE: Right here.

23 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you.

24 MR. MCFARLANE: How you doing? I am a
25 student at Cal State Long Beach, and I fully support

1 the merger between AT&T and T-Mobile.

2 PRESIDENT PEEVEY: You don't take his
3 class?

4 MR. MCFARLANE: No. No, I'm a sophomore.
5 Maybe in the future though.

6 JUDGE MACDONALD: Mr. McFarlane, can you
7 just spell your last name.

8 MR. MCFARLANE: Oh, sorry. It's
9 M-c-F-a-r-l-a-n-e.

10 I support the merger and I urge you do the
11 same. I live in the mountains up in Duarte, and I
12 never get cell reception up there, so I have to
13 stand in odd places around my house, talk to people
14 like this (indicating). And it's terrible. My
15 friend has T-Mobile and he does get service, so that
16 would be also really cool.

17 The merger would provide broadband to
18 97 percent of Americans and will improve service
19 within California, helping shrink the digital
20 divide. By combining their networks, AT&T and
21 T-Mobile, we can experience the benefits of
22 expanding connectivity and coverage.

23 Also, people mentioned before that prices
24 for T-Mobile would go up and they wouldn't be able
25 to afford it, and the CEO stated that people already

1 on T-Mobile's plan could keep their plans and it
2 will not raise.

3 So anyways, I think the merger should be
4 approved without conditions, and I also am very
5 excited to see how the AT&T logo will incorporate
6 T-Mobile's purple one into it.

7 Thank you very much.

8 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you.

9 Our next speaker is David Baier, followed
10 by Susan Baxter.

11 MR. BAIER: Hi. My name is David Baier,
12 D-a-v-i-d, B-a-i-e-r.

13 I'm here on my own behalf today in support
14 of this merger, because as a college student who
15 lives off campus, my cell phone is my only means of
16 communicating with my professors and fellow
17 classmates when I'm off campus. I do not have a
18 laptop or a land phone at my apartment, and this
19 merger would expand my coverage as an AT&T customer
20 and make my life much easier as a student on a
21 day-to-day basis and allow me to communicate much
22 easier with everybody on campus when I am off
23 campus.

24 Thank you.

25 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you.

1 Our next speaker is Susan Baxter, followed
2 by Dave Thompson.

3 THE WITNESS: Good evening. S-u-s-a-n,
4 B-a-x-t-e-r.

5 I'm here as a private citizen, and I
6 support the merger without condition. One of the
7 minority communities that hasn't been mentioned
8 that's been supported by AT&T is the LGBT community,
9 and so I wanted to bring that interest forward.

10 Also, I think it is an interesting
11 combination, where AT&T is supporting the workforce
12 of T-Mobile. And no one's really talked about
13 what's going to happen to T-Mobile if AT&T doesn't
14 merge with them and what kind of services and how
15 viable their company is if that doesn't happen. So
16 I'd like to bring that interest up also.

17 I'm also a college professor, and I teach
18 in a low-income, high-Hispanic/African-American
19 community. Their only means of communicating and
20 having any access to internet is usually through
21 their phones. They can't afford computer systems.
22 And I would like to see that this merger support
23 that community and also provide a more equitable
24 environment for students to be able to work through
25 their education.

1 Thank you.

2 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you.

3 Dave Thompson, followed by Rigo Saborio.

4 MR. THOMPSON: Hello. My name is David
5 Thompson, and I'm here to beg of you to block this
6 sale of T-Mobile to AT&T.

7 I believe that it's anticonsumer for the
8 following reasons: It will create a GSM monopoly.
9 It's a type of phone spectrum that only T-Mobile and
10 AT&T provide. It will create higher costs for
11 consumers like myself. I will -- with my plan and
12 what I get, I will pay approximately 30 to 40
13 percent more with AT&T than I will with T-Mobile.

14 They also do not have flexibility in
15 bringing your own device, which is a real
16 pro-consumer type option that T-Mobile allows. Most
17 of the other providers do not allow that in any
18 significant way.

19 AT&T claims that they need bandwidth. This
20 is just not true. They have plenty of bandwidth;
21 they just choose not to use it. The reason they
22 want T-Mobile's bandwidth is really to eliminate a
23 competitor more than gain bandwidth or create better
24 service for the consumer.

25 AT&T's consumer record is horrid. You can

1 go and read on the internet to your heart's delight
2 all the horror stories about AT&T's service and
3 their off- -- outsourcing of all the service centers
4 to third-world countries, which will in fact
5 eliminate jobs.

6 As you've probably witnessed already this
7 evening, plenty of organizations which have their
8 palms greased are in favor of this. But if you ask
9 most consumers, I don't think you'll find that's the
10 case because AT&T is really clearly, for the
11 consumer, the wrong choice.

12 Thank you.

13 JUDGE MACDONALD: Rigo Saborio, followed by
14 Gary Passmore.

15 MR. SABORIO: Good evening. My name is
16 Rigo Saborio, R-i-g-o, Saborio, S-a-b-o-r-i-o.

17 Contrary to the previous comment, I'm here
18 as president and CEO of Saint Barnabas Senior
19 Services, a nonprofit, nonsectarian organization.
20 And my palms have not been greased, nor our
21 organization, but yet we're here in support of the
22 merger.

23 Saint Barnabas Senior Services has been
24 serving aging and impoverished people residing in
25 the urban center of Los Angeles for over a hundred

1 years in the MacArthur Park area, offering
2 award-winning models of healthy aging that are
3 recognized nationally as well as internationally.

4 Typically the Saint Barnabas Senior Service
5 clients are in their mid-seventies, they live alone,
6 they depend on Social Security, have few relatives
7 or friends to provide assistance, and speak minimal,
8 minimal English. The majority of those served are
9 from the Chinese, Korean, and the Latino
10 communities.

11 Most of our seniors live alone, and many
12 struggle with at least one activity of daily living,
13 such as toileting, transferring, feeding, bathing,
14 and so on. Because they live alone and have some
15 form of physical limitations, they need to have an
16 ability to communicate with others from any
17 location. If not, they're going to become isolated,
18 and, frankly, they're going to become depressed.

19 Thus computers and cell phones have become
20 an important way for our seniors to communicate and
21 be connected to their network of friends and family,
22 people they are comfortable with. By keeping them
23 connected, this revolution in communications has
24 helped address depression which results in isolation
25 and inability to communicate.

1 It also has created a public safety benefit
2 for other people. As many of our seniors walk or
3 take public transportation. Many rely on their cell
4 phones for emergency situations. Sometimes they get
5 lost, they fall down, or they need immediate
6 attention of some kind.

7 Cell phones are not only for convenience
8 but they also serve as a safety device. At our
9 center and in other organizations serving seniors,
10 we are seeing more and more cell phones in use, and
11 we think that it's a good use and, quite frankly, a
12 necessary development.

13 As we are observing a greater use of and
14 dependency of cell phones among older adults, all
15 seniors, especially the ones served by Saint
16 Barnabas Senior Services, need affordable rates and
17 reliable cell phone service, particularly in those
18 times of major emergency urgency kinds of needs, and
19 we believe that this merger is going to help assure
20 this end.

21 Further, we expect that the proposed merger
22 will create a stronger company to better and more
23 effectively serve our seniors today and into the
24 future, thus helping them be safer, more confident,
25 and less isolated.

1 Thank you very much.

2 JUDGE MACDONALD: Thank you.

3 Gary Passmore, followed by Jose Felix
4 Cabrera.

5 MR. PASSMORE: President Peevey,
6 Commissioner Sandoval, and Judge, my name is Gary
7 Passmore. Last name is P-a-s-s-m-o-r-e.

8 I am here representing the Congress of
9 California's Seniors, a statewide organization with
10 several hundred thousand members.

11 For over 30 years we have advocating on
12 behalf of seniors and people with disabilities. We
13 do not as an advocacy organization receive a dime
14 from AT&T Corporation or Foundation, but we do have
15 an affiliate that does outreach to underserved
16 minority and low-income seniors around the state
17 that has received funding from the Foundation, and
18 we're very proud of that partnership and grateful to
19 AT&T for being the kind of corporate citizen that
20 cares about the communities that we serve.

21 I am here not because of that grant. I am
22 here because I am convinced, as Mr. Saborio just
23 said, that seniors need access to good quality,
24 affordable, accessible broadband services. Cell
25 phones are not a convenience for frail elderly

1 people; they are a lifeline. They prevent elder
2 abuse.

3 We have sponsored a project in California
4 where we're training families to use cell phones.
5 Middle-aged family members to contact their elders.
6 Cell phones prevent isolation. Computers compensate
7 for lack of mobility. They allow people to stay in
8 touch, not just with friends or family, as the ads
9 say, but with the whole broad world, when the
10 alternative is isolation and deterioration.

11 Broadband technology is essential for this
12 state. We understand the future of California is
13 tied to green energy and to telecommunications. And
14 we embrace it. As seniors, we have a very long
15 memory and we also have a sense of what's important
16 for the future of this state.

17 And I want to bring together -- and I
18 hadn't intended to say this until I was here
19 today -- I think we have to connect the dots. We've
20 got a corporation that is so active in the community
21 that you have heard dozens and dozens of
22 organizations that serve underserved minority,
23 low-income people, saying how important ATT is to
24 them.

25 No one in the nonprofit sector that I am