

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

In the Matter of the Joint Application of Sprint
Communications Company L.P. (U5112) and
T-Mobile USA, Inc., a Delaware Corporation,
For Approval of Transfer of Control of Sprint
Communications Company L.P. Pursuant to
California Public Utilities Code Section 854(a).

Application Number 18-07-011

And Related Matter

Application Number 18-07-012

**MOTION OF CALIFORNIA EMERGING TECHNOLOGY FUND
TO BECOME A PARTY**

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December 12, 2018

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I. Introduction

The California Emerging Technology Fund (CETF) respectfully moves for party status in this proceeding, in accordance with Rule 1.4 of the California Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) Rules of Practice and Procedure.

II. Interest in this Proceeding

A non-profit organization established by this Commission, the California Emerging Technology Fund has knowledge and expertise in broadband infrastructure and adoption programs that are effective in closing the Digital Divide in California. It is our intent to participate by filing California data in this proceeding on the reliance on smartphones by low-income populations for access to the Internet. The applicants are leaders in the pre-paid mobile phone service market which targets and serves to low-income populations. While CETF understands much of the focus in this proceeding is on wireless voice issues, we have concerns about the market power of the combined T-Mobile and Sprint entity over rates and data caps for low-cost prepaid plans for both wireless voice and Internet access targeted to low-income and disadvantaged communities. CETF’s intention is to ensure that broadband rates and terms of service provided on smart phone low-income plans remain affordable and of similar quality to normal retail plans. Further, CETF shall continue to advocate that all corporate consolidations should be reviewed to ensure there are public benefits that are “appropriate, fair and comparable” to prior mergers where applicants voluntarily have provided new or upgraded infrastructure

builds, affordable rate plans for low-income persons, and other broadband adoption efforts for Digital Inclusion in the state.

III. Notice

Service of notices, orders and other correspondence in this proceeding should be directed to the California Emerging Technology Fund at the contact information set forth below:

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IV. Conclusion

For the reasons stated above, the California Emerging Technology Fund respectfully requests that this Motion for Party Status be granted.

Respectfully submitted,

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