BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Joint Application of Sprint Communications Company L.P. (U-5112) 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).

And Related Matter.

Application No. 18-07-011

Application No. 18-07-012

MOTION OF THE COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA DISTRICT 9 TO BECOME A PARTY

October 16, 2018

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I. INTRODUCTION

Pursuant to Rule 1.4 of the Commission’s Rules of Practice and Procedure, the Communications Workers of America District 9 respectfully moves for party status.

II. INTEREST IN THIS PROCEEDING

CWA District 9 represents more than 57,000 workers in California in telecommunications, media, airlines, public service, higher education and other sectors. CWA District 9 represents more than 20,000 workers in the telecommunications industry, including almost 4,000 employees in the wireless industry at AT&T Mobility and as members of T-Mobile Workers United, an organization of T-Mobile and MetroPCS employees.
The T-Mobile/Sprint merger will have a significant impact on CWA members, both as workers in the industry and as consumers of wireless services. CWA’s research shows that the merger will result in the loss of 3,185 retail jobs in California due to store closures and consolidation. In addition, the proposed transaction could increase concentration in the wireless industry labor market with negative impact on industry-wide wages.

The merger will also reduce competition in an already highly concentrated industry, which will likely lead to price increases that impact CWA members as consumers of wireless services. Because T-Mobile and Sprint dominate the pre-paid wireless market, reduced competition will have a particularly negative impact on low- and moderate-income CWA members as consumers of wireless services.

CWA District 9 would like to join this proceeding as a party to ensure that the merger is in the public interest, including the interest of the telecommunications companies’ employees. CWA District 9 intends to actively participate in this proceeding. No other party in the proceeding can adequately represent the interest of telecommunications companies’ employees.

III. NOTICE AND COMMUNICATIONS

Notices and communications to CWA District 9 in this proceeding may be directed to:
IV. CONCLUSION

This proceeding is in its initial stages. CWA District 9's participation will not prejudice any party and will not delay the schedule. For the reasons stated above, CWA District 9 respectfully requests that the Commission grant its motion to become a party.

Dated: October 15, 2018

Respectfully submitted,

/s/
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