

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 2, 2014

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The Honorable Tom Wheeler
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Wheeler,

We write to share concerns expressed to us about the North American Numbering Council's vendor selection process for the Local Number Portability Administrator of the Number Portability Administration Center. With a database affecting millions of consumers and thousands of cellular carriers, the Center is a part of the critical infrastructure supporting our nation's economy on a daily basis. We share the Commission's commitment to conducting this process in a fair, transparent manner, particularly in light of the Federal Government's recent challenges managing a similarly complex and sweeping IT procurement.

The concerns expressed to us cover a wide array of issues, including claims that the Request for Proposal submission process was flawed and concerns that a potential transition to a new vendor would extend well beyond the duration of the existing contract. It is our understanding that the Federal Communications Commission's Wireline Competition Bureau, which has delegated authority for this project to the Council, raised similar concerns about process integrity in its February 11, 2014, letter to the Council and that similar concerns have been expressed in the comments filed by several cellular carriers, who are worried about the financial and functional challenges that could be placed on them.

As you know, the Number Portability Administration Center is an essential component for a digital economy that is increasingly reliant on mobile devices and technology. We support the decision to conduct a competitive source selection, and we share these concerns with you in an effort to ensure an impartial process. Before further consideration of this matter, we respectfully request the Commission review the Council's response to the FCC's Wireline Competition Bureau, which has directed the Council to document the steps taken to review all concerns expressed about the selection process and to submit its findings on whether the process was, in fact, conducted in a fair manner. We also request a copy of the Council's response and the Commission's assessment whether the competition has been conducted in a fair, transparent fashion.

Sincerely,


Gerald E. Connolly
Member of Congress
11th District, Virginia


Frank R. Wolf
Member of Congress
10th District, Virginia