Witness: Kevin P. Collins

Type of Exhibit: Surrebuttal Testimony

Party: Sprint Nextel Corporation Case No. IO-2006-0086

### BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

Application of Sprint Nextel Corporation for Approval of the Transfer of Control of Case No. IO-2006-0086 Sprint Missouri, Inc., Sprint Long Distance, Inc. and Sprint Payphone Services, Inc. From Sprint Nextel Corporation to LTD Holding Company.

#### SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF KEVIN P. COLLINS

ON

**BEHALF OF** 

**SPRINT NEXTEL CORPORATION** 

FILED<sup>2</sup>

MAR 0 7 2006

Service Commission

**PUBLIC VERSION** 

**JANUARY 5, 2006** 

Exhibit No. 12

Case No(s). 10-2006-0086

Date 27706 Aptr Act

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Case No. IO-2006-0086

#### SECTION 1: NAME/PURPOSE

- 2 Q. Please state your name and business address.
- 3 A. My name is Kevin P. Collins. My business address is Houlihan, Lokey, Howard
- 4 and Zukin Financial Advisors, Inc., 245 Park Avenue, 19th Floor, New York, NY
- 5 10167.

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- 7 Q. Are you the same Kevin P. Collins who previously filed Direct Testimony in
- 8 this proceeding?
- 9 A. Yes, I am.

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- 11 Q. What is the purpose of your Surrebuttal Testimony?
- 12 A. The purpose of my Surrebuttal Testimony is to respond to statements made in the
- testimony of Ms. Debbie Goldman, who filed Response to Staff Testimony in this
- proceeding on behalf of Communication Workers of America ("CWA"). The
- testimony was filed on December 6, 2005. In responding to this testimony, I will
- clarify certain misrepresentations presented by Ms. Goldman, as well as explain
- the flaws contained in various arguments she makes regarding the financial
- viability of the new LTD Holding Company (or "LTD").

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#### SECTION 2: Ms. Debbie Goldman

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2 Ms. Goldman claims that LTD will be a financially weaker company after O. the separation (Goldman Amended Response to Staff Testimony, page 23). 3 In coming to that conclusion she expresses concern regarding the existence of 4 5 negative shareholder equity (Goldman Response to Staff Testimony, pages 15-16). Are her concerns regarding negative shareholder equity valid? 6 7 A. Not at all. In that discussion, Ms. Goldman is referring to book value of equity, 8 rather than market value. As discussed in my Direct Testimony (Collins Direct, 9 page 7), book value of equity is often a function of accounting conventions and 10 historical accounting treatment and, for companies like LTD Holding Company, is not a directly applicable figure for either valuation purposes or for assessing a 11 company's capital structure. Book value results from the myriad accounting rules 12 and often has no direct correlation to market value. This can be observed in the 13 marketplace where companies with negative book equity values have positive and 14 substantial market equity values. There is generally little correlation between the 15 market value of equity of a company, the true indicator of the value of a company, 16 and the book value of equity. As demonstrated on Attachment KPC-3 to my 17 Surrebuttal Testimony, there is a lack of correlation between a company's market 18 19 value of equity and book equity. For example, Proctor & Gamble, as of the date 20 of the attachment, had \$132 billion of market equity value and less than \$19 21 billion of book equity value. In fact, Proctor & Gamble's book equity would have

been negative had it not been for goodwill that is held on the balance sheet.

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Q. But Ms. Goldman suggests that shareholders would be concerned that, because of negative book equity, LTD would not be able to raise additional capital funds, and in the case of a downturn the company could go bankrupt and shareholders be left with nothing (Goldman Amended Response to Staff Testimony, pages 14-15).

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A.

As discussed in my Direct Testimony (Collins Direct, pages 11-12), the ability of a company to raise financing is a function of a number of factors, including, but not limited to attractiveness of its business, leverage and capital market conditions. Based on the Company's forecasts and assuming market conditions are reasonably similar to those existing today, LTD Holding Company should maintain a substantial market equity value as well as numerous alternatives for accessing capital in the future. For companies such as LTD Holding Company, lenders and investors look at a company's earnings power and its credit metrics (i.e. debt/EBITDA) when considering investing capital and do not put material weight on the book value of equity. Regarding a potential alleged downturn in LTD Holding Company's business performance beyond the declines forecasted in the base case projections, I have performed an analysis ("Report to Sprint Nextel Corporation" at pages 65-73, attached to my Direct Testimony) which tests the impact of underperformance versus plan for LTD. Based on this analysis, it is my opinion that LTD should be able to pay and/or refinance its debts as they become absolute and mature.

Exhibit No. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Witness: Kevin P. Collins

Type of Exhibit: Surrebuttal Testimony

Party: Sprint Nextel Corporation

Case No. IO-2006-0086

- 1 Q. Based upon reading of the Testimony by Ms. Goldman, do your conclusions
- 2 cited in your prior testimony change.
- 3 A. No. There is nothing in my Direct Testimony that changes as a result of her
- 4 testimony.
- 5 Q, Does this conclude your Surrebuttal Testimony?
- 6 A. Yes it does.

10-2006-0086 Sprint Surrebuttal Testimony of Kevin P. Collins KPC-1

## **PUBLIC**

# SPRINT-NEXTEL CORPORATION Market v. Book Value of Equity Analysis Select Companies (\$ in millions)

**€** (#

	As of 3/31/05				As of 6/30/05			
	Market Value	Book Value	Goodwill	BV of Equity	Market Value	Book Value	Goodwill	BV of Equity
Company	of Equity	of Equity	Balance	less Goodwill	of Equity	of Equity	Balance	less Goodwill
Cablevision Systems Corp.	\$8,077.9	(\$2,722.4)	\$1,446.0	(\$4,168.4)	\$9,288.1	(\$2,481.1)	\$989.6	(\$3,470.7)
EchoStar Communications Corp.	13,293.8	(1,829.8)	3.0	(1,832.8)	13,636,4	(972.1)	3,4	(975.5)
Cincinnati Bell Inc.	1,044.3	(627.6)	40.9	(668.5)	1,057.4	(659.3)	40.9	(700.2)
Clorox Co.	9,710.0	(346,0)	744.0	(1,090.0)	8,451.8	(553.0)	743.0	(1,296.0)
Lucent Technologies Inc.	12,174.3	(479.0)	427.0	(906.0)	12,932.0	(70.0)	423.0	(493.0)
Procter & Gamble Co.	\$132,203.2	\$18,730.0	\$20,286.0	(\$1,556.0)	\$130,445.5	<b>\$18,</b> 475.0	\$19,816.0	(\$1,341.0)
General Mills Inc. (1)	18,942.6	5,292.0	6,711.0	(1,419.0)	17,306.1	5,144.0	6,675,0	(1,531.0)
Keliogg Co. (3)	17,554.1	2,290.6	3,445.5	(1,154.9)	18,436.3	2,477.4	3,445.5	(968.1)
Citizens Communications Co.	4,405.5	1,326.9	1,921.5	(594.6)	4,614.0	1,318.9	1,921.5	(602.6)
CenturyTel Inc.	4,311.0	3,429.2	3,433.9	(4.7)	4,498.7	3,443.1	3,444.2	(1.t)
Deil Inc. (5)	\$85,054.9	\$5,624.0	\$0.0	\$5,624.0	\$97,735.1	\$5,509.0	\$0.0	\$5,509.0

Source: Company filings and Factses.

<sup>(1)</sup> Figures for 3/1/05 and 6/30/05 are as of 2/27/05 and 8/28/05, respectively, due to different reporting periods,

<sup>(2)</sup> Figures for 3/1/05 and 6/30/05 are as of 4/2/05 and 7/2/05, respectively, due to different reporting periods.

<sup>(3)</sup> Figures for 3/1/05 and 6/30:05 are as of 4/29/05 and 7/29/05, respectively, due to different reporting periods,