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MCI INC
Form 425
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Subject Company: MCI, Inc.

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Letter to the editor: Denver Post

It's easy to understand why the hometown paper backs the hometown company, but the Post should take a good look before leading the cheers for Qwest (Feb. 25, 2005) in its pursuit of MCI.

In the end, it is customers and employees who pay the cost of Qwest's proposal.

A Qwest-MCI deal eliminates competition in the important business/government market. Both companies operate long-distance networks, and Qwest has made clear it will shut one of them down. That will cost thousands of jobs, Qwest admits, and it will deprive customers of choice. AT&T, either alone or with SBC, will still dominate the business market.

Qwest's local customers see no benefit from all this. A deal with MCI gives local users no assurance of more reliable local service, improved investment or lower prices.

A combination of MCI with Verizon offers the best outcome for customers because no competitor is eliminated, and the financial health of the new company would assure a strong competitor to the dominant company in the business market place.

Eric Rabe
VP, Media Relations
Verizon

Verizon Communications Inc. (Verizon) intends to file a registration statement, including a proxy statement of MCI, Inc. (MCI), and other materials with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) in connection with the proposed transaction. We urge investors to read these documents when they become available because they will contain important information. Investors will be able to obtain free copies of the registration statement and proxy statement, as well as other filed documents containing information about Verizon and MCI, at www.sec.gov, the SEC's website. Investors may also obtain free copies of these documents at www.verizon.com/investor, or by request to Verizon Communications Inc., Investor Relations, 1095 Avenue of the Americas, 36th Floor, New York, NY 10036. Free copies of MCI's filings are available at www.mci.com/about/investor_relations, or by request to MCI, Inc., Investor Relations, 22001 Loudoun County Parkway, Ashburn, VA 20147.

Verizon, MCI, and their respective directors, executive officers, and other employees may be deemed to be participants in the solicitation of proxies from MCI shareholders with respect to the proposed transaction. Information about Verizon's directors and executive officers is available in Verizon's proxy statement for its 2004 annual meeting of shareholders, dated March 15, 2004. Information about MCI's directors and executive officers is available in MCI's annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2003. Additional information about the interests of potential participants will be included in the registration statement and proxy statement and other materials filed with the SEC.

NOTE: This document contains statements about expected future events and financial results that are forward-looking and subject to risks and uncertainties. For those statements, we claim the protection of the safe harbor for forward-looking statements contained in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. The following important factors could affect future results and could cause those results to differ materially from those expressed in the forward-looking statements: a significant change in the timing of, or the imposition of any government conditions to, the closing of the transaction; actual and contingent liabilities; and the extent and timing of our ability to obtain revenue enhancements and cost savings following the transaction. Additional factors that may affect the future results of Verizon and MCI are set forth in their respective filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, which are available at www.verizon.com/investor and www.mci.com/about/investor_relations/sec/.