

April 28, 2006

Securities and Exchange Commission

Dear Securities and Exchange Commission,

I am writing to urge the Securities and Exchange Commission to act on its proposed rule making on executive compensation disclosure. Too often executives are richly rewarded even when their companies' performance is below par. Without better disclosure, shareholders, employees and the general public cannot evaluate whether executive pay packages are unjustly enriching executives at shareholder cost or providing fair compensation.

The newly proposed rules will make this crucial information more accessible to shareholders and the public. The new requirements to disclose total compensation figures, pensions and detailed compensation breakdowns will make it clear exactly how much top executives are earning and why.

I believe that CEO pay should be set by independent directors. Under the proposed rule, a director could secretly do \$120,000 in business with a company, an amount that is more than four times the average worker's annual pay of \$27,460. Shareholders should be told if directors have potential conflicts of interest, no matter what the amount.

I also urge the SEC to require that companies disclose pay-for-performance data. In order for investors to understand how pay and performance match up, companies need to explain more clearly what level of performance is necessary for a particular level of pay. I urge the SEC to require companies to disclose both the performance criteria and the performance targets they use when setting executive pay.

I am also concerned and disgusted at the multi-million dollar salaries that executives are allowed to vote themselves any time they see fit. They then complain when their profit margin is lower than what they promised Wall Street at the beginning of the year, thus impacting their Wall Street rating. They then turn around and try to layoff/fire/or in some other fashion reduce the pay of middle income employees as an attempt to quote "save the company money". If, for example, Ivan Siedenbug, CEO of Verizon were to lower his platinum salary of 13 million a year + stock options to even \$10 million a year that would save the company \$3 million a year. Contrastingly, he has to find a way to fire/layoff 60 regular employees at 50,000/year to see the same savings. No one man needs \$13 million a year to live on. His salary, I'm sure, rivals the budget of some cities. And, unfortunately, he is not alone.

Please send a message to these executives who want to live like kings at the expense of the average Americans everywhere that their days of living like royalty are over.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Midkiff