

Clearwire to tap into \$80M financing from Sprint

February 27 2013

(AP)—Clearwire says it will tap into \$80 million in financing from Sprint, putting a hurdle in the way of a possible sale of the wireless network operator to Dish.

Bellevue, Wash.-based <u>Clearwire</u> has received buyout offers from both Sprint and Dish. In December, it agreed to a deal with <u>Sprint Nextel</u> Corp. that offered \$2.2 billion for the 49 percent of Clearwire that Sprint doesn't already own. Then <u>Dish Network</u> Corp. bid about \$5.15 billion for Clearwire in January.

As part of Sprint's deal, the wireless carrier had agreed to provide Clearwire with up to \$800 million in financing—notes that could give Sprint a bigger stake if they were converted to stock.

Clearwire has said that if it used the Sprint financing, Dish would likely withdraw its offer.

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Citation: Clearwire to tap into \$80M financing from Sprint (2013, February 27) retrieved 27 April 2024 from https://phys.org/news/2013-02-clearwire-80m-sprint.html

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