

Dish tops Sprint's bid for Clearwire ahead of vote

May 30 2013

Satellite TV operator Dish Network has raised its bid for Clearwire Corp., valuing the wireless network operator at \$6.9 billion, in an attempt to outbid Sprint Nextel Corp. two days before Clearwire shareholders are meeting to vote on a deal.

Dish's bid of \$4.40 in cash per share is 29 percent higher than Sprint's bid of \$3.40 per share. Sprint wants to buy the half of Clearwire that it doesn't already own.

Dish's previous offer, from January, was for \$3.30 per share.

Dish Network Corp. chairman Charlie Ergen said in a statement that Clearwire's [wireless spectrum](#)—space on the airwaves—is key to Dish being able to deliver future services.

Dish has also offered to buy Sprint.

Clearwire shares are up 22 percent to \$4.23 in after-hours trading.

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