

October 3, 2017

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Notice of Ex Parte Communications -- WC Docket 17-84

Dear Ms. Dortch:

This is to notify you pursuant to Section 1.1206 of the Commission's Rules that on October 3, 2017 the undersigned along with Aryeh Fishman Associate General Counsel of the Edison Electric Institute, Andrew Russell Lead Engineer, Joint Use Department Duke Energy, Kevin Cookler of Lerman Senter on behalf of Xcel Energy, and Eric Langley of Langley & Bromberg LLC ("the EEI Group") met with Daniel Kahn, Adam Copeland, Michael Ray, Lisa Hone, Eric Ralph, Angelica Lao and Nicole Desbois of the Wireline Competition Bureau and Paul Lafontaine of the Office of Strategic Planning & Policy in connection with the above-referenced proceeding.

The EEI Group discussed the multi-billion dollar investment that the electric industry is making in order to modernize this nation's power grid. They noted that this new smart energy infrastructure has been enabled by the convergence of energy and telecommunications technologies and that the industry's reliance on communications is increasing. Further, they pointed out that as a result these converged technologies, electric companies have made a commitment to and begun to partner with localities and others to develop smart communities.

The EEI Group then discussed pole attachment safety and reliability. They first discussed the basics of the distribution system and pole attachments, with specific reference to p. 4 of the attached slide deck and the stand-alone handout entitled "What's on an electric utility pole?" The EEI Group noted that the attachments placed by wireless antenna attachers to poles are much larger than "pizza boxes." The electric system poses inherent hazards and requires rigorous design. Nothing is more important than the safety of workers and the public. Consequently, unique skills are required.

The EEI Group also discussed one-touch-make-ready ("OTMR"). They indicated that mandated OTMR must be limited to the communications space. They noted the dangers involved and the complex skills necessary for someone—contractor or electric company employee—to work in the electric space.

The EEI Group used the attached documents.

Please contact the undersigned if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Stinson Leonard Street LLP

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "H. Russell Frisby Jr." The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

H. Russell Frisby, Jr

HF:SLS

Attachments

cc: Adam Copeland
Daniel Kahn
Michael Ray
Lisa Hone
Eric Ralph
Angelica Lao
Paul Lafontaine
Nicole Desbois