

October 16, 2018

***Ex Parte Notice***

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

**RE:   *Connect America Fund, WC Docket No. 10-90; ETC Annual Reports and Certifications, WC Docket No. 14-58; Establishing Just and Reasonable Rates for Local Exchange Carriers, WC Docket No. 07-135; Developing a Unified Intercarrier Compensation Regime, CC Docket No. 01-92***

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On Friday, October 12, 2018, the undersigned discussed matters related to the above-referenced proceedings with Commissioner Brendan Carr and his chief of staff, Jamie Susskind.

Specifically, I encouraged the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") to resolve universal service fund budget concerns by year end in order to permit companies like Golden West Telecommunications to plan for and undertake investments in 2019, and to sustain those investments already made to deliver quality voice and broadband services in rural South Dakota. I expressed support for the FCC to act promptly consistent with the recent letter filed by NTCA and other associations, and explained how the simple and straightforward path outlined in that letter would achieve the FCC's reform objectives for accountability and broadband advancement, respond to the calls of congressional leaders to resolve budget concerns, and fulfill the statutory goals of sufficiency and predictability. *See Ex Parte* Letter from Michael R. Romano, Sr. Vice President, NTCA, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, Commission, WC Docket No. 10-90, *et al.* (filed Oct. 1, 2018).

Thank you for your attention to this correspondence. Pursuant to Section 1.1206 of the FCC's rules, a copy of this letter is being filed via ECFS.

Sincerely,

/s/ Denny Law

Denny Law

General Manager & Chief Executive Officer

cc:   Commissioner Brendan Carr  
      Jamie Susskind