February 16, 2017

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

Re: Petition for Reconsideration of the Decision of the Wireline Competition Bureau by El Monte Union High School District, CC Docket No. 02-6

Dear Ms. Dortch:

This letter is filed in support of the petition for reconsideration filed by El Monte Union High School on January 25, 2017. In its petition, El Monte respectfully requests reconsideration of a decision of the Wireline Competition Bureau (Bureau) to deny El Monte's appeal of a Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) decision regarding the above-captioned application for Schools and Libraries Universal Service funding.

The Commission's rule requires a service implementation extension be granted when the delay is caused by "reasons beyond the service provider's control." That was certainly the case here. Alquest has done everything possible to diligently perform the work that El Monte had requested, and stands ready to complete the project as soon as an extension is granted.

After USAC approved the project a year after the District sought funding, the District's technology director sadly passed away. Once a new director was in place, Alquest mobilized and completed several scopes of work. Alquest, being a small business, has suffered not only from the lost revenue for work not yet completed on the project, but from the $260,000.00 that has so far been uncollectable. It is our understanding that once the service extension was not granted, we could no longer invoice for work already completed. This has forced Alquest to turn away some new opportunities due to the lack of capitalization that this has caused.

Please feel free to contact us if you have questions or would like additional information.

Sincerely,

Henry J. Wojcik, RCDD
President, Alquest Technologies, Inc.

cc: Kris Monteith, WCB Bureau Chief
Ryan Palmer. TAPD Chief
Aaron Garza. TAPD Deputy Division Chief