



May 17, 2018

Ex Parte

Ms. Marlene Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> St. SW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: USTelecom Ex Parte Notice, WC Dkt. No. 10-90, *Connect America Fund***

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On May 15, 2018, Jon Banks and I, representing USTelecom, met with Jay Schwarz, Wireline Advisor to Chairman Pai, and Alex Minard, Steven Wang and Talmage Cox of the Wireline Competition Bureau. Subsequently, on May 17, 2018, I had a follow up conversation with Mr. Minard, Mr. Cox and Mr. Wang on the same topic.

The purpose of the meetings was to discuss that, as the Federal Communications Commission (Commission) moves forward with the Connect America Fund (CAF) Phase II Auction, it will need to address the treatment of obligations and support for voice services in high cost areas that are not funded as part of the CAF II program. USTelecom emphasized the need for support in these costly areas which are not otherwise economically viable. The parties discussed USTelecom's prior filings in this docket on the subject<sup>1</sup> and whether the recent decision of the US Court of Appeals for the DC Circuit<sup>2</sup> may require revisions to allocation methods described in prior proposals.

Please contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_/s/\_\_\_\_\_  
Mike Saperstein  
Vice President, Law & Policy

cc: Jay Schwarz  
Alex Minard  
Talmage Cox  
Steven Wang

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<sup>1</sup> See Letter from Jonathan Banks, Senior Vice President, USTelecom, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, WC Docket No. 10-90 (filed Mar. 3, 2018); Letter from Jonathan Banks, Senior Vice President, USTelecom, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, FCC, WC Docket No. 10-90 (filed Feb. 27, 2018)

<sup>2</sup> *AT&T, Inc. v. FCC*, 886 F.3d 1236 (D.C. Cir. 2018).