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August 31, 2018

Ex Parte

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

Re: *Reliability and Continuity of Communications Networks, Including Broadband Technology*, PS Docket No. 11-60

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On August 29, 2018, I met with the following Commission staff to discuss issues raised in Verizon's July 16, 2018 comments in this proceeding: Robert Finley, Jennifer Holtz (via teleconference), Renee Roland (via teleconference), and Madeline Meckes (intern) of the Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau; William Andrie, Jr., Rebekah Douglas (via teleconference) and Claudia Pabo of the Wireline Competition Bureau; and Pramesh Jobanputra of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau.

Participants discussed Verizon's recommendations in its comments, including support for an annual, narrative-based approach to monitor service providers' efforts to meet their voluntary commitments under the Wireless Network Resiliency Cooperative Framework. Participants also discussed the merits of incorporating backhaul arrangements into wireless providers' Framework commitments; Verizon reiterated that backhaul arrangements typically include extensive reliability and information sharing provisions already, explained that wireless providers often have limited real-time visibility into backhaul providers' networks, and recommended that wireline providers be encouraged to participate in DHS/NCC coordination efforts to improve situational awareness for industry and government stakeholders alike. Verizon noted that after Hurricanes Harvey and Irma, most of its backhaul connections were re-established within 1-2 days, and that new satellite-based backhaul solutions are emerging. (*See Verizon Comments in PS Docket No. 17-344, at 16-17, filed Jan. 22, 2018.*)

Finally, the participants discussed the importance to PSAPs of situational awareness of outages that affect consumers' ability to reach 911. The principal challenge in this regard is providing PSAPs actionable information, while not overwhelming them with unhelpful data and

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distracting service providers from their recovery efforts. We are hopeful that collaborative multi-stakeholder efforts can develop some best practices that draw an appropriate balance.

This letter is being filed electronically pursuant to Section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Robert A. Morse". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Robert" being more prominent and the last name "Morse" following in a similar style. The initials "A." are small and integrated into the flow of the signature.

cc: Robert Finley
Jennifer Holtz
Renee Roland
William Andrle, Jr.
Rebekah Douglas
Claudia Pabo
Pramesh Jobanputra