



September 9, 2016

***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; Developing a Unified Intercarrier Compensation Regime, CC Docket No. 01-92***

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On Wednesday, September 7, 2016, the undersigned on behalf of NTCA–The Rural Broadband Association (“NTCA”) spoke via telephone with Suzanne Yelen of the Wireline Competition Bureau to discuss matters in the above-referenced proceedings.

Specifically, NTCA encouraged the Federal Communications Commission (the “Commission”) to pursue a clear and transparent implementation schedule that will enable all reforms (model and non-model) to take effect at approximately the same time to the extent possible, and to provide carriers with sufficient estimates, calculations, and other data in advance of any implementation deadlines to help inform upcoming universal service fund (“USF”) support elections. In particular, NTCA noted the importance of providing data that will allow carriers to ascertain the impacts of reforms still being implemented – specifically: (1) the new operating expense limits; (2) the competitive overlap rule; (3) any new buildout obligations; (4) the budget control as it might apply in 2017, and (5) the new capital investment allowance governing recovery of prospective investments via USF.

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

Sincerely,

/s/ Michael R. Romano

Michael R. Romano  
Senior Vice President –  
Industry Affairs & Business Development

cc: Suzanne Yelen