



September 20, 2018

Ex Parte

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

Re: USTelecom Ex Parte Notice, WC Dkt. No. 18-89, *Protecting Against National Security Threats to the Communications Supply Chain Through FCC Programs*

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On September 18, 2018, I met with Nirali Patel, Special Counsel to Chairman Pai, to discuss the Commission's Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) in the docket referenced above.¹ The purpose of the meeting was to update the Commission on current events related to supply chain that are taking place across the federal government. Specifically, we discussed the new Information and Communications Technology Supply Chain Task Force, which is the first major effort from Department of Homeland Security's National Risk Management Center.² We also discussed the recently enacted National Defense Authorization Act, which contains direction for federal agencies to prohibit funding certain entities deemed security risks after 2020.³

Consistent with our comments in this docket,⁴ USTelecom supports, and seeks to work with, an ongoing federal risk management effort to identify supply chain risks and devise appropriate remedial measures; however USTelecom emphasized the importance of a whole of government strategy for any such effort. Accordingly, USTelecom urged the FCC to closely coordinate with its federal government counterparts as it develops and considers the record in this proceeding.

Please contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

_____/s/_____
Mike Saperstein
Vice President, Law & Policy

cc: Nirali Patel

¹ *Protecting Against National Security Threats to the Communications Supply Chain Through FCC Programs*, WC Docket No. 18-89, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, FCC 18-42 (Apr. 18, 2018).

² DHS, ICT Supply Chain Task Force, https://www.dhs.gov/sites/default/files/publications/18_0731_cyber-summit-supply-chain-fact-sheet.pdf (last visited Sept. 20, 2018).

³ John S. McCain National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2019, Pub. L. No. 115-232 (2018).

⁴ Comments of USTelecom, WC Docket No. 18-89 (filed June 1, 2018).