



September 29, 2017

**VIA ECFS**

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
Office of the Secretary  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

RE: **Notice of Ex Parte Presentation, *In the Matter of Restoring Internet Freedom, MB***  
*Docket No. 17-108*

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Writers Guild of America, West, Inc. ("WGAW") submits this letter summarizing the following meetings that WGAW Political Director Corrina Freedman, WGAW DC Representative Michael Forscey of Forscey PLLC, WGAW Vice President Marjorie David and Board Member Glen Mazzara had on Thursday, September 28, 2017:

- A meeting with David Grossman, Chief of Staff to Commissioner Mignon Clyburn and Claude Aiken, Legal Advisor
- A meeting with Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel and Travis Litman, Senior Legal Advisor

In the meetings, WGAW representatives explained their opposition to Chairman Pai's proposed order to reclassify broadband Internet access service as an information service under Title I of the Communications Act. The prior Commission's order correctly concluded that designation of the Internet as a Title II telecom service is the only legal way to protect public access. The DC Circuit has reaffirmed this and twice told the Commission that it cannot achieve the stated goal of an "Open Internet" without using Title II to do so.

WGAW members explained that they have benefitted from net neutrality and the current Open Internet rules. The explosive growth of the online video market provides strong evidence that the current rules are working. Sixty-eight TV-length series created by WGA members were released online in 2016 and upwards of 100 series will be released in 2017. The Open Internet Order of 2015 has cemented in place a new competitive environment by prohibiting specific

practices by internet service providers (“ISPs”). It has helped stimulate billions of dollars of investment in new programming, while consumer demand has fueled investment in faster wired and wireless networks. Guild members also explained how a free and open Internet has allowed traditionally marginalized voices to bypass content gatekeepers and reach viewers directly.

Eliminating the strong open Internet rules that ensure ISPs have a legal obligation to treat content providers fairly will reduce competition and the quality of programming available to consumers. For these reasons, the Writers Guild of America West expressed its strong opposition to Chairman Pai’s proposed order.

Pursuant to Section 1.1206 of the Commission’s rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206, this letter is being filed via ECFS, and a copy will be provided by email to the individual listed below. Please contact me with any questions regarding this notice.

Respectfully submitted,

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/s/

Corrina Freedman  
Political Director  
Writers Guild of America, West, Inc.

cc: Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel  
David Grossman  
Travis Litman  
Claude Aiken