



November 1, 2018

Ms. Marlene Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Room TW-A325  
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: **Ex parte filing** in WC Docket Nos. 10-90 and 16-271

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On October 30 and 31, the undersigned from GVNW Consulting, Inc. (GVNW) and Steve Merriam, Federal Advocate for Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative (ASTAC) conducted separate *ex parte* meetings with Wireline Legal Advisor Preston Wise from Chairman Pai's office, Wireline Legal Advisor Arielle Roth and Legal Intern Kagen Despain from Commissioner O'Rielly's office, Wireline Legal Advisor and Chief of Staff Jamie Susskind from Commissioner Carr's office, and with Chief of Staff Travis Litman from Commissioner Rosenworcel's office. Jens Laipenieks, ASTAC CEO, participated telephonically in the meetings with Ms. Patel, Ms. Susskind and Mr. Litman.

The *ex parte* meetings included updates from ASTAC on their wireline and wireless Alaska Plan obligations, and the comparative broadband speed differential with slide 5 from the Connect America Fund Phase II Auction Results from the Rural Broadband Auctions Task Force presentation at the FCC Open meeting of September 26, 2018. That slide indicated that only 0.25% of locations by speed tier was at a level of 10/1 Mbps – 25/3 Mbps, while almost half (46.75%) of locations by speed tier was shown as 25/3 Mbps – 100/20 Mbps. We reviewed what modifications to the Alaska Plan would be needed to address that speed gap.

Maintaining adequate and sufficient federal universal service funding (FUSF) is required for implementation of all of the Commission's universal service initiatives. As required by the Commission's rules, this *ex parte* record is now filed in the above referenced dockets. If there are any questions, please call me on 503-612-4409.

Sincerely,

Filed ECFS

Jeffrey H. Smith  
President and CEO

Copy to

Preston Wise, FCC  
Arielle Roth, FCC  
Jamie Susskind, FCC  
Travis Litman, FCC  
Kagen Despain, FCC