



November 20, 2018

Ex Parte

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth 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; Establishing Just and Reasonable Rates for Local Exchange Carriers, WC Docket No. 07-135; Developing a Unified Intercarrier Compensation Regime, CC Docket No. 01-92

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On November 19, 2018, Lynn Follansbee, USTelecom, Trey Judy, Hargray Communications, Cullen McCarty, Smithville and Trent Boaldin, EPICTOUCH had a telephone conversation with Arielle Roth, Legal Advisor to Commissioner O'Reilly to discuss the above-referenced proceedings..

During the meeting, USTelecom members discussed how best to address ongoing concerns with respect to the sufficiency and predictability of federal high-cost universal service fund support, including proposals consistent with a letter recently submitted by the associations. *See Ex Parte* Letter from Michael R. Romano, Sr. Vice President, NTCA, *et al.*, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, WC Docket No. 10-90, *et al.* (filed Oct. 1, 2018). The companies discussed how the current budget control mechanism effects their ability to plan for cap ex investment both in the near term and in the future.

Please contact the undersigned should you have any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

USTELECOM

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "B. Lynn Follansbee".

By: _____

B. Lynn Follansbee
Vice President – Law & Policy

cc: Jamie Susskind