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July 25, 1996

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William F. Caton
Acting Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, NW
Mail Stop Code 1170
Washington, D.C. 20544

RE: Ex Parte Presentation
CC Docket 96-98

Dear Mr. Caton:

Pursuant to the requirements of Sections 1.1200 et seq. of the Commission's Rules, this is to notify you that Gerry Salemme of AT&T Corp. and I spoke today with Karen Brinkmann of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau. In our conversation, we expressed AT&T Wireless' view that any benefit of reforming the method by which LEC to CMRS interconnection rates are set would be lost if LECs are permitted to unilaterally define their local calling areas and impose proxy access charges on CMRS providers outside of those areas. Such a decision would not be in the public interest because it would provide the LECs with a new, unjustified source of access revenue by 1) subjecting an industry that has traditionally been free from access charges to an access charge regime on the eve of access charge reform; 2) allowing the LECs to collect access revenues even though the CMRS carrier would be utlizing its own facilities and not the LEC's transport facilities; 3) allowing the LECs to dictate the interconnection rates paid by CMRS providers through their delination of local calling areas; and 4) frustrating the Commission's goal of encouraging the development of CMRS through the establishment of fair, cost-based LEC-CMRS interconnection.

Should there be any questions regarding this matter, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Cathy Massey

Cathleen A. Massey

cc: Karen Brinkmann

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