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Robert W. Haga
Manager-
Government Relations

May 1, 1997

Mr. William F. Caton
Acting Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W. - Room 222
Washington, D.C. 20554

RECEIVED

MAY 1 1997

Re: Notice of Ex Parte Presentation, In the Matter of Changes to the Board of Directors of the National Exchange Carrier Association, Inc., **CC Docket No. 97-21**, and In the Matter of the Universal Service Joint Board **CC Docket No. 96-45**

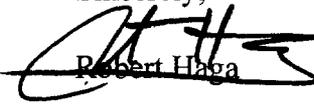
Dear Mr. Caton:

On April 30, 1997, NECA's Vice President and General Counsel Kenneth Levy, Vice President of Tariffs and Costs William E. Stern, Vice President of Government Relations Kathryn Falk, and myself spoke with Commissioner Rachelle Chong.

The purpose of the telephone call was to discuss NECA governance issues in CC Docket 97-21 and Universal Service issues in CC Docket 96-45. In response to questions posed by Commissioner Chong, NECA representatives discussed a general timeline for possible implementation of the schools and libraries fund along with ways for the FCC to save time in implementation of the new fund including having the FCC set the contribution factor, and develop the forms, and authorizing the use of TRS billing and collection database information. NECA stated that if the FCC sets the contribution factor and sends the forms to OMB on May 8, that the program could be up and running by Fall 1997. Additionally, NECA suggested that the FCC should appoint NECA as the interim administrator of the new funds, authorize NECA to begin work May 8, and specify that NECA shall keep cost of the development expenses and be reimbursed from the new funds. Finally, the FCC should establish an expedited review process for rules that are unclear. NECA stated that any delay in these items will delay the timeline for implementing the program.

Due to the lateness of the hour, I am filing this ex parte with the Commission today. Please acknowledge receipt hereof by affixing a notation on the duplicate copy of this letter furnished herewith for such purposes and remitting same to bearer.

Sincerely,


Robert Haga

cc: Commissioner Chong and members of the Federal-State Joint Board

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