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October 14, 1997

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Mr. William Caton, Acting Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Caton:

GTE urges the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service to consider Quen Bredeweg, Vice President-Regulatory for GTE Corporation, for nomination as a Category 1 (incumbent local exchange carrier) member of the Rural Task Force.

GTE is the nation's largest provider of telephone service to rural communities, with 17.4 million switched access lines in 28 states. GTE's heritage is rooted in rural America, beginning in 1918 in Richland County, WI with 1,466 telephone lines. Currently, about 25 percent of GTE's access lines are in areas considered "rural" under the definition in the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

By virtue of its extensive rural presence, GTE traditionally has been the largest recipient of support from the universal service fund (USF) to help it provide service to high-cost areas. GTE thus has developed significant understanding of the needs of rural communities as well as the workings of the existing USF.

As the attached biographical information indicates, Mr. Bredeweg is responsible for regulatory strategy, policy and planning for GTE's domestic business units. In this capacity, Mr. Bredeweg oversees the company's formulation of policies regarding universal service, the development and review of universal service cost models, and the ongoing administration of USF support for GTE. With this background, Mr. Bredeweg will be able to offer a valuable and insightful perspective as a member of the Rural Task Force.

Please call me if you have any questions regarding Mr. Bredeweg's candidacy for the Rural Task Force.

Sincerely,

Whitney Hatch
Enclosure

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QUEN E. BREDEWEG
VICE PRESIDENT - REGULATORY

Quen Bredeweg was named Vice President-Regulatory in June 1997. He is responsible for regulatory strategy, policy and planning for GTE domestic business units, and for the associated regulatory operations of these units.

Most recently, Mr. Bredeweg was Assistant Vice President-Regulatory for GTE Card Services Inc. In this capacity, he directed the strategic planning and regulatory aspects of GTE's new long distance and competitive local service businesses.

Mr. Bredeweg is a 19-year veteran of the industry and GTE, starting as an Accounting Management Trainee for General Telephone Company of Indiana. During his career, he has assumed increasing levels of responsibility for FCC, PUC and SEC Financial reporting. In 1986, Mr. Bredeweg joined GTE Headquarters in Stamford, CT, as Director-Affiliated Interests. While in this position, he served on the USTA Affiliated Interest Subcommittee. In 1989, he moved to GTE Telephone Operations Headquarters in Irving, TX, where he held a number of positions in Marketing, Sales, Business Planning and Finance.

Mr. Bredeweg received a bachelor's degree in Accounting in 1978 from Butler University. The native Hoosier now lives in Colleyville, TX, with his wife and three children.

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