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Federal Communications Commission  
Office of Secretary



UNITED STATES  
TELEPHONE  
ASSOCIATION

Ex parte Notice

January 22, 1998

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Magalie Roman Salas  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, NW  
Room 222  
Washington, DC 20554

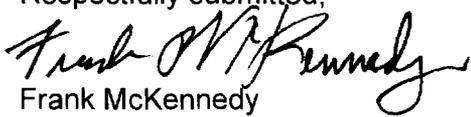
**RE: CC Docket No. 96-262 Access Reform**

Dear Ms. Salas:

On Wednesday, January 21, 1998 representatives of the United States Telephone Association (USTA) met with FCC Chief Economist Michael Riordan and other members of the FCC Common Carrier Bureau Staff. Representing USTA were Dr. Richard Schmalensee, MIT; Dr. William Taylor, National Economic Research Association; Bob McDonnell, Bell Atlantic; Jay Bennett, SBC; Whit Jordan, BellSouth; and Frank McKennedy, USTA. Present for the FCC in addition to Michael Riordan were John Berresford, Gary Biglaiser, Pat DeGraba, Don Stockdale, and Larry Strickland.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the economic basis for the granting of interstate access pricing flexibility for the local exchange carriers (ILECs), as set out in the paper prepared by Dr.'s Schmalensee and Taylor titled, "The Need for Carrier Access Pricing Flexibility in Light of Recent Marketplace Developments." This paper was previously filed with the FCC ex parte by USTA in this proceeding. (See USTA ex parte filing dated January 16, 1998 and attachment.)

Because of the lateness of the meeting on January 21, 1998, this letter and one copy are being filed today in the office of the Secretary of the Commission. Please include this letter in the public record of this proceeding.

Respectfully submitted,  
  
Frank McKennedy  
Director, Legal and Regulatory Affairs

cc: Michael Riordan      John Berresford      Gary Biglaiser  
Pat DeGraba              Don Stockdale              Larry Strickland

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