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Ex Parte

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: In the Matter of Protecting and Promoting the Open Internet, GN Docket 14-28

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Yesterday, Comptel filed a letter mischaracterizing a few brief comments by Verizon's Chief Financial Officer Fran Shammo during an investor conference this week. Comptel claims that these comments support a radical shift in the way that the FCC and Congress have approached regulating broadband and the Internet.

We submit for the record the blog entry posted yesterday by Fran Shammo, clarifying his remarks and making clear his perspective on the relationship between Title II regulation and network investment:

Last night, a few news sites ran stories about recent comments I made at an investor conference in response to a question about how the threat of Title II regulation might impact Verizon's capital investment.

As Verizon has indicated on several occasions over the past few weeks, discussions about potential regulatory changes related to net neutrality have been going on for a decade, and we don't change our short-term view on investment based on rumors of what might or might not happen. But as we and other observers of the net neutrality debate have made abundantly clear, experience in other countries shows that over-regulation decreases network investment. If the U.S. ends up with permanent regulations inflicting Title II's 1930s-era rules on broadband Internet access, the same thing will happen in the U.S. and investment in broadband networks will go down.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathleen Grillo".

Attachment



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This is a guest post from [Fran Shammo](#), Verizon Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer.

Last night, a few [news](#) sites ran [stories](#) about recent [comments I made](#) at an investor conference in response to a question about how the threat of Title II regulation might impact Verizon's capital investment.

As Verizon has indicated on several occasions over the past few weeks, discussions about potential regulatory changes related to net neutrality have been going on for a decade, and we don't change our short-term view on investment based on rumors of what might or might not happen. But as we and [other observers](#) of the net neutrality debate have made abundantly clear, experience in other countries shows that over-regulation decreases network investment. If the U.S. ends up with permanent regulations inflicting Title II's 1930s-era rules on broadband Internet access, the same thing will happen in the U.S. and investment in broadband networks will go down.

A transcript of the interview can be found [here](#) [PDF].

<http://publicpolicy.verizon.com/blog/entry/the-relationship-between-investment-and-regulation>[12/12/2014 10:04:47 AM]