



March 26, 2015

**Via Electronic Filing**

Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 Twelfth Street SW  
Washington, DC 20554

**Re: Notice of Ex Parte Communication: *Implementation of Section 224 of the Act*, WC Docket No. 07-245**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On March 24, 2015, Kevin Lo, Director, Fiber Business Org, Johanna Shelton, Director, Public Policy & Govt Relations, and Staci Pies, Senior Policy Counsel of Google Inc. (collectively, the "Google representatives") met with the following Federal Communications Commission ("FCC" or "Commission") officials: Philip Verveer, Senior Counselor to the Chairman Wheeler; Gigi B. Sohn, Counselor to the Chairman Wheeler; Daniel Alvarez, Legal Advisor to Chairman Wheeler; and Matthew DeNero, Deputy Chief of the Wireline Competition Bureau. Rosita López also attended the meeting.

Mr. Lo provided an update on Google Fiber, including the announcement that Google Fiber plans to offer service in Salt Lake City, Utah. Mr. Lo explained the numerous benefits that arise when new, competitive broadband services are offered to communities, including: creation of local jobs related to construction; improvement in communities' economic standing; and influx of tech-related businesses. Consumers also experience more choices at more reasonable prices as incumbent providers expand their suites of offerings and upgrade their networks. Mr. Lo noted, however, that continued, significant obstacles to broadband deployment remain and discussed Google Fiber's firsthand experiences with those challenges.

The Google representatives discussed various ideas by which the Commission can continue to lower broadband deployment barriers. For instance, existing rules still permit owners of infrastructure including poles, ducts, and conduits to delay network build-outs through protracted make-ready timelines and processes. The Commission should expeditiously update and clarify its infrastructure access and make-ready rules to streamline deployment processes.

The Google representatives also discussed the Commission's potential role to make more information available about poles and other infrastructure. Lack of reliable,

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basic information complicates and slows the broadband deployment process. By revisiting Recommendation 6.4 in the *National Broadband Plan*, the Commission should act to improve the collection and availability of information on location and availability of poles, ducts, conduits, and rights-of-way. For instance, the Commission should require infrastructure owners to maintain and make available basic inventory information they already possess, such as pole ID numbers.

The Google representatives also urged the Commission to harness opportunities to provide insights to the Broadband Opportunity Council. The Commission's expertise and experience allow it to identify priorities for consultation with the Council. For example, the Commission should urge the Council to work across agencies to implement "joint trenching" and "dig once" policies.

Google will continue to be a resource to the FCC and other government agencies as the company continues to expand its fiber footprint. Pursuant to the Commission's rules, this notice is being filed in the above-referenced dockets for inclusion in the public record. Please contact the undersigned with any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Staci L. Pies". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Staci L. Pies  
*Sr. Legal Counsel*  
*Google Inc.*

cc: *Via Electronic Mail*  
Philip Verveer  
Gigi B. Sohn  
Daniel Alvarez  
Matthew DelNero  
Rosita López