



November 11, 2015

Ex Parte

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Connect America Fund, WC Docket No. 10-90

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On Sunday, November 8, 2015, I was a participant in a meeting with industry representatives at the invitation of Washington Utilities and Transportation Commissioner Phil Jones. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss progress on a plan to reform high-cost USF Support for Rate-of-Return Carriers. Carol Matthey with the FCC Wireline Bureau was a participant in the meeting as well. I expressed my appreciation to Ms. Matthey for her hard work and efforts to encourage industry to finalize the components of a workable plan for rate-of-return carriers.

I indicated that USTelecom believed that we were close to the finish line and that we remained committed to reaching agreement on the few remaining points that needed to be resolved. I noted that USTelecom had been working closely with a group of associations and our members on the plan and that we had members who were leaning towards the proposed Model option and others who were interested in the Non-Model option. I indicated that it was in our mutual interest to reach agreement among the participating associations. I expressed strong support for the collaborative effort and thanked Commissioner Jones for inviting USTelecom to the meeting in Austin, Texas.

Please contact the undersigned should you have any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert L. Mayer", is written over a light gray rectangular background.

Robert Mayer
Vice President, Industry and
State Affairs

cc: Carol Matthey