



January 27, 2016

***Ex Parte Notice***

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

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

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On Monday, January 25, 2016, the undersigned, on behalf of NTCA–The Rural Broadband Association (“NTCA”), spoke via telephone with Carol Matthey and Suzanne Yelen of the Wireline Competition Bureau regarding matters in the above-referenced proceeding.

Specifically, we discussed options for reforming existing universal service mechanisms to achieve goals articulated by Congress, the Federal Communications Commission (the “Commission”), and NTCA members who serve in the most rural areas of the country. NTCA urged in particular that the Commission should and can undertake reforms that enable cost-based recovery for the delivery of standalone broadband services where consumers demand such services, while also avoiding disruption with respect to the recovery of prior investments in accordance with rules and expectations in place at the time those investments were made.

Thank you for your attention to this correspondence. Pursuant to Section 1.1206 of the Commission’s rules, a copy of this letter is being filed via ECFS.

Sincerely,

/s/ Michael R. Romano  
Michael R. Romano  
Senior Vice President – Policy

cc: Carol Matthey  
Suzanne Yelen