

**Alan Buzacott**  
Executive Director  
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March 21, 2016

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**Ex Parte**

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

**Re: Lifeline and Link-Up Reform and Modernization, WC Docket No. 11-42**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On March 17, 2016, Alan Buzacott, Maggie McCready, and Catherine Hilke of Verizon met with Amy Bender, Wireline Legal Advisor to Commissioner O’Rielly, to discuss the above-captioned proceeding. Separately, Alan Buzacott met with Nick Degani, Wireline Legal Advisor to Commissioner Pai, and Maggie McCready, Catherine Hilke, and Will Johnson of Verizon met with Matthew DelNero, Chief of the Wireline Competition Bureau, and Stephanie Weiner, Gigi Sohn and Louisa Terrell of Chairman Wheeler’s office.

In the meetings, we emphasized that the Commission should ensure that the National Eligibility Verifier begins operation as quickly as possible, in order to reduce the burdens on customers and carriers alike. We also emphasized that participation in broadband Lifeline should be optional for all carriers, and that the Commission should make clear that states do not have the authority to layer additional broadband Lifeline-related obligations on top of federal requirements. Finally, we explained that if the Commission elects to phase out Lifeline support for standalone voice service, it should phase out support in a technologically-neutral manner.

This letter is being filed electronically pursuant to Section 1.1206 of the Commission’s rules. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alan Buzacott". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.