
Alaska Telephone Association

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Christine O'Connor
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March 24, 2016

Ms. Marlene Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Room TW-A325
Washington, DC 20554

RE: *Lifeline and Link Up Reform and Modernization*, WC Docket No. 11-42;
Telecommunications Carriers Eligible for Universal Service Support, WC Docket
No. 09-197; *Connect America Fund*, WC Docket No. 10-90

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On March 23rd I spoke telephonically with Travis Litman, Legal Advisor to Commissioner Rosenworcel, regarding minimum standards for Lifeline service under consideration in the Lifeline and Link Up Reform and Modernization dockets listed above.

We discussed the difficulties Alaska's low-income consumers and providers will face in remote Alaska if a minimum standard of 3G data for wireless service is adopted. In many remote areas of Alaska wireless networks are not yet 3G-capable, so it is important that Lifeline continue to support 2G service in these areas. I recommended the Commission allow an exemption to a 3G minimum standard for those areas of remote Alaska which are served by 2G networks. This would allow Lifeline service to continue un-interrupted and prevent the likelihood of future waiver proceedings.

Pursuant to Section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, this ex parte letter is being filed via ECFS in WC Docket No. 11-42, WC Docket No. 09-197, and WC Docket 10-90.

Respectfully submitted,

Via ECFS 3/24/2016

Christine O'Connor
Executive Director

cc: Travis Litman