



1200 G STREET, NW, SUITE 350 PH: 202.296.6650
WASHINGTON, DC 20005 FX: 202.296.7585

April 21, 2016

VIA ECFS

EX PARTE NOTICE

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

Re: *Special Access Rates for Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers, WC Docket No. 05-25 and RM-10593*

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On April 19, 2016, the undersigned had a conversation with Jon Sallet. During the call, I expressed my support for the Commission's concrete action in the above-referenced proceeding and its proposal for a new framework for Business Data Services ("BDS"), also known as special access services, that will update the policies to ensure the reasonable access to BDS that is needed for wireless backhaul and competitive services to business customers, schools, hospitals, libraries and government buildings. I stressed the importance of regulatory policies that ensure reasonable rates, in non-competitive areas, including for high bandwidth Ethernet services (e.g., bandwidths higher than 50 Mbps) in achieving this goal, including promoting next generation mobile broadband networks such as 5G. I also discussed the need for competitors having access to wholesale rates that will promote competition at the retail level.

/s/ Chip Pickering

Chip Pickering
Chief Executive Officer

cc: Jonathan Sallet