



June 10, 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; ETC Annual Reports and Certifications, WC Docket No. 14-58; Developing a Unified Intercarrier Compensation Regime, CC Docket No. 01-92***

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On Wednesday, June 8, 2016, the undersigned on behalf of NTCA–The Rural Broadband Association (“NTCA”), together with the NTCA members and staff identified in the attachment hereto, met with Carol Matthey, Pamela Arluk, Alexander Minard, and Suzanne Yelen of the Wireline Competition Bureau (the “Bureau”) to discuss matters in the above-referenced proceedings.

NTCA raised questions and concerns regarding the sequencing of events and steps necessary for rural local exchange carriers (“RLECs”) to make informed decisions with respect to voluntary elections for model-based or non-model universal service support. In particular, even if certain processes and measures will not be completed or take effect for months to come, NTCA urged the Federal Communications Commission (the “Commission”) and the Bureau to proceed as promptly as possible to address reform implementation questions and requests for clarification, and to provide clarity specifically regarding: (a) the universe of data that will form the baseline for purposes of determining competitive overlap for non-model support; and (b) the projected effects of new budget controls, operating expense limits, and capital expense constraints on non-model RLEC support. Undertaking such steps and estimating and/or defining such data will be essential in permitting carriers to make informed decisions about support elections. NTCA further expressed strong support for a sequencing of reforms pursuant to which all model and non-model reforms can ultimately be implemented in a timely and coordinated manner.

Marlene H. Dortch

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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  
Pamela Arluk  
Alexander Minard  
Suzanne Yelen

**Attendees**  
**NTCA-Wireline Competition Bureau Meeting**  
**June 8, 2016**

Ryan Boone, Premier Communications  
David Clark, Kerman Telephone Company  
Richard D. Coit, South Dakota Telecommunications Association  
Tom Conry, Farmers Mutual Cooperative Telephone Company  
Craig Cook, Hill Country Telephone Cooperative Inc.  
James Costello, Lemonweir Valley Telephone Company  
Eric Cramer, Wilkes Telephone Membership Corporation  
Robert J. DeBroux, TDS Telecom  
Scott Hiatt, NineStar Connect  
Don Jackson, Tri-County Telephone Association  
Michael D. Jensen, Amery Telcom  
Trey Judy, Hargray  
Denny Law, Golden West Telecommunications  
Roger Nishi, Waitsfield and Champlain Valley Telecom  
William A. Squires, Blackfoot Telephone Cooperative  
Denny Thompson, Home Telephone Company, Inc.  
Bruce H. Todd, STRATA Networks  
Kelley Wells, Panhandle Telephone Cooperative  
Candace Wright, Blue Valley Tele-Communications  
Rod Ballard, Jackson Thornton & Company, Inc.  
Jerry W. Burmeister, Interstate Telcom Consulting  
Tom Campbell, Olsen Thielen & Co., Ltd.  
Chad Duval, Moss Adams  
Jim Frame, National Exchange Carrier Association  
Kevin Kelly, TCA  
Steve D. Meltzer, JSI  
Jeff Smith, GVNW Consulting  
Larry Thompson, Vantage Point Solutions  
Vince Wiemer, Alexicon  
Valerie Ancrum, Palmetto Rural Telephone Cooperative  
Daryl Carlson, Webster-Calhoun Cooperative Telephone Association  
Jeff Goodrich, STRATA Networks  
Laura Graff, Atlantic Telephone Membership Corporation  
Brock Johansen, Emery Telcom  
Christopher Kyle, Shenandoah Telecommunications Company  
Barb Main, Pigeon Telephone Company  
Jennifer Otwell, Totelcom Communications, LLC  
Tony Veach, Bennet & Bennet  
Geoff Feiss, Montana Telecommunications Association  
Shirley Bloomfield, NTCA  
Michael Romano, NTCA  
Joshua Seidemann, NTCA  
Jill Canfield, NTCA  
Tom Wacker, NTCA  
Brian Ford, NTCA  
Rick Schadelbauer, NTCA