

April 24, 2000

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.
Washington, D. C. 20554

RE: **Ex Parte Statement—Via Electronic Filing**
CC Docket No. 96-262
CC Docket No. 94-1
CC Docket No. 96-45
CC Docket No. 99-249

Dear Ms. Salas:

On April 21, 2000 I spoke, via telephone, with Larry Strickling, Chief of the Common Carrier Bureau regarding the Coalition for Affordable Local and Long Distance Service (“CALLS”) modified proposal for universal service and access charge reform.

I reviewed the positions espoused by Cincinnati Bell Telephone Company and Broadwing Communications Inc. in their comments on the modified proposal. Specifically, I reviewed the arguments supporting a lower X-factor for special access for carriers with less than two percent of the nation’s access lines and discussed the rationale for targeting at least a proportionate share of the additional switched access reductions to the tandem switched and tandem transport rates. No new issues were raised during this discussion.

This letter is being filed electronically in accordance with Section 1.206(b)(2) of the Commission’s Rules.

Sincerely,

/s/ Ted Heckmann

Managing Director
Carrier Services

cc: Larry Strickling