

The Voice of Rural Telecommunications



March 9, 2001

Ms. Magalie R. Salas, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street S.W., TW-A325
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Ex Parte Notice
CC Docket No. 96-98, CC Docket No. 99-68

Dear Ms. Salas:

On Thursday, March 8, 2001, Rebecca Beynon, Senior Counsel for Commissioner Furchtgott-Roth met with Daniel Mitchell of the National Telephone Cooperative Association. We discussed issues in the above-referenced proceedings related to reciprocal compensation and Internet service provider (ISP) bound traffic. A document summarizing NTCA's positions on issues concerning reciprocal compensation was provided at the meeting and enclosed with this letter.

In accordance with the FCC's rules, an original and two copies of this letter are being filed with the Secretary's office. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

/s/ Daniel Mitchell
Daniel Mitchell

cc: Rebecca Beynon



March 8, 2001, Ex Parte Presentation on Reciprocal Compensation with Rebecca Beynon, Senior Counsel for Commissioner Furchtgott-Roth.

Summary of NTCA's positions on issues concerning reciprocal compensation:

- Immediate actions by the Commission should be limited to issues raised in the NPRM in Docket No. CC 99-68 and by DC Circuit in its remand of the Commission's Reciprocal Compensation Declaratory Ruling.
- The initial decision classifying Internet bound traffic as interstate is proper.
- The Commission has jurisdiction and should establish a mechanism for recovery of the costs associated with this traffic.
- Internet bound traffic should also be treated as interstate for separations purposes.
- If the Commission decides on a transition to "bill and keep," it should limit its decision to Internet bound traffic.
- Decisions involving other inter-carrier compensation issues should be reserved until the forthcoming NOI is complete:
 - 1) CMRS – LEC interconnection arrangements should be left undisturbed.
 - 2) LEC – LEC agreements covered by § 251(b)(5) should continue to be governed by interconnection agreements negotiated between parties with no mandatory "bill and keep" for this traffic.