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**FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, SW
Room TW-A325
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: USTA Petition for Reconsideration
of *Ninth Report and Order and
Eighteenth Order on Reconsideration*
CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Ms. Salas:

On December 29, 1999, the United States Telecom Association (USTA) filed a Petition for Reconsideration of the Commission's *Ninth Report and Order and Eighteenth Order on Reconsideration* in CC Docket No. 96-45, in which it sought reconsideration of the adoption of a forward-looking economic cost model as a basis for determining universal service support for non-rural carriers and of the inclusion of long term support in the cost mechanism for non-rural carriers.

USTA hereby requests that its December 29, 1999 Petition for Reconsideration be withdrawn without prejudice.

Respectfully submitted,

John W. Hunter
Senior Counsel
Legal & Regulatory Affairs

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