

October 1, 2001

**EX PARTE – Via Electronic Filing**

Ms. Magalie Roman Salas  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
The Portals  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: CC Docket 96-45 (Rural Task Force Recommendation), and  
CC Docket Nos. 00-256, 96-45, 98-77, and 98-166 (Multi-Association  
Group Plan for Regulation of Interstate Service of Non-Price Cap Incumbent  
Local Exchange Carriers and Interexchange Carriers)

Dear Ms. Salas:

On September 28, 2001, Mr. Joel Lubin (of AT&T) and Mr. John Nakahata (representing AT&T, GCI and Western Wireless) met with Mr. Matt Brill, Legal Advisor to Commissioner Abernathy, regarding the above-captioned matter. Messrs. Lubin, Nakahata, and Mark Rubin (of Western Wireless) also met with Mr. Jordan Goldstein, Senior Legal Advisor to Commissioner Copps. The substance of both presentations is summarized in the letter of John Nakahata to Ms. Jane Jackson and Ms. Katherine Schroder, dated September 27, 2001 and previously filed in the above-captioned dockets. We urged that the Commission move forward to decide these matters now, and also that unless universal service support is provided to reduce access rates in high cost areas, the Commission's policy of geographic averaging of toll rates will be unsustainable and subject to marketplace erosion.

In accordance with FCC rules, a copy of this letter is being filed electronically in each of the above-captioned dockets.

Sincerely,



John T. Nakahata

JTN/krs

c: Matt Brill, Legal Advisor to Commissioner Abernathy  
Jordan Goldstein, Senior Legal Advisor to Commissioner Copps