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1801 K Street, N.W., Suite 400K
Washington, D.C. 20006-1301

telephone 202.775.7100
facsimile 202.857.0172

San Antonio
San Diego
San Francisco
Washington, D.C.
Woodland Hills
Affiliated Offices
Brussels, Belgium
Geneva, Switzerland

Mark Van Bergh
Direct Dial: (202) 775-7983
E-mail: VanBergh@arterhadden.com

December 19, 2001

RECEIVED
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Mark G. Siefert
Deputy Chief, Accounting Policy Division
Common Carrier Bureau
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Room 5 A426
Washington, D.C. 20554

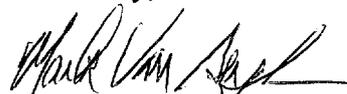
Re: Unicom, Inc.
Petition for Review of Decision of
Universal Service Administrator
Docket Nos. 96-45 and 97-21

Dear Mr. Siefert:

This letter is to confirm the informal advice that Peter Trachtenberg of the Accounting Policy Division, Common Carrier Bureau, provided to undersigned counsel during a telephone conversation on December 17, 2001. In particular, Mr. Trachtenberg advised that the proceeding initiated by Unicom's Petition for Review filed on October 9, 2001, is considered a restricted proceeding for purposes of the Commission's *ex parte* rules. See 47 C.F.R. Section 1.1208. Thus, it is our understanding that any *ex parte* presentation to or from decision-making personnel concerning Unicom's Petition for Review or the issues raised therein is (and has been) prohibited.

Should any questions arise concerning this matter please contact Ken Keane of this office at (202) 775-7123, or undersigned counsel.

Sincerely,



Mark Van Bergh

ARTER & HADDEN_{LLP}

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cc: D. Scott Barash
Valerie Davidson
Lloyd Benton Miller
Gerard J. Waldron
Martin M. Weinstein
Tina M. Pidgeon
Peter Trachtenberg