



October 14, 2003

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street S.W., TW-A325  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: ***Ex Parte Notice***

Federal-State Board on Universal Service Seeking Comment on the  
Commission's Rules Relating to High-Cost Universal Service Support and the  
ETC Designation Process, CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On Monday, October 13, 2003, Commissioner Bob Rowe and Economist Michael Lee with the Montana Public Service Commission, Commissioner Nan Thompson with the Alaska Public Service Commission, and Joel Shifman with the Main Public Utilities Commission had a conference call with Professor Dale Lehman, Director of the MBA Program in Telecommunications Management at Alaska Pacific University and Marie Guillory and Dan Mitchell with the National Telecommunications Cooperative Association (NTCA). During the conference call the group discussed NTCA's positions related to issues concerning the portability of universal service support and the public interest test for designating eligible telecommunications carriers (ETCs) in rural incumbent local exchange carrier (ILEC) service areas. Prior to the conference call NTCA emailed the five attached documents that were used as an outline for the presentation that took place during the conference call.

In accordance with the Commission'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/ Dan Mitchell  
Dan Mitchell  
Sr. Regulatory Counsel

Attachments

cc: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service  
Federal and State Joint Board Staff  
Christopher Libertelli  
Jessica Rosenworcel