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January 23, 2004

EX PARTE

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Petition for Declaratory Ruling That AT&T's Phone -to-Phone IP Telephony Services Are Exempt from Access Charges, WC Docket No. 02-361

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On January 23, 2004, Kathleen Grillo and Karen Zacharia, on behalf of Verizon, met with Matthew Brill, Senior Legal Advisor to Commissioner Kathleen Abernathy. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss AT&T's Petition for a Declaratory Ruling that AT&T's Phone-to-Phone IP Telephony services are exempt from access charges.

The discussion focused on the applicability of access charges to the type of service AT&T describes in its Petition. Verizon stated that the Commission's rules have long required that access charges apply when local exchange switching facilities are used to originate or terminate interstate interexchange voice traffic. Verizon urged the Commission to act now to confirm the applicability of its existing access charge rules when local exchange switching facilities are used to originate or terminate long distance calls, regardless of the intermediate technology used. The positions expressed in the meeting were consistent with Verizon's comments and reply comments in the proceeding.

Pursuant to Section 1.1206(b) of the Commission's rules, one electronic copy of this notice is being filed in the above-referenced proceeding.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kathleen Grillo".

Kathleen Grillo

cc: Matthew Brill