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January 9, 2006

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Room TW-B204
Washington, DC 20554

**Re: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service
CC Docket No. 96-45**

Dear Madam Secretary:

In accordance with Section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206, we hereby provide you with notice of an oral *ex parte* presentation in connection with the above-captioned proceeding.

On Tuesday, January 7, 2006, undersigned counsel met with Dana Shaffer of the Wireline Competition Bureau to discuss the status of Smith Bagley, Inc.'s ("SBI") petition for designation as an eligible telecommunications carrier ("ETC") in the portion of the Navajo Reservation located in Utah. SBI urged prompt action on the petition, provided a history of the proceeding to date, and discussed the Commission's jurisdiction to grant ETC status on Native American lands.

If you have any questions or require any additional information, please contact undersigned counsel directly.

Sincerely,



David A. LaFuria

cc: Dana Shaffer, Esq.