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October 23, 2007

EX PARTE

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: In the Matter of: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, High Cost Universal Service Support, WC Docket No. 05-337; In the Matter of: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On October 22, 2007, Dennis Weller of Verizon met by telephone with the Hon. Ray Baum, State Chairman of the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service. They discussed the need for an interim cap on high cost support to competitive ETCs and reviewed Verizon's proposals for long-term Universal Service Fund reform.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathleen Grillo".

cc: Hon. Ray Baum