

Voice | Data | Internet | Wireless | Entertainment



January 11, 2008

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 Twelfth Street, SW  
Room TWB-204  
Washington, DC 20554

701 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
Suite 820  
Washington, DC 20004

[www.embarq.com](http://www.embarq.com)

***EX PARTE NOTICE***

Re: *Developing a Unified Inter-carrier Compensation Regime*, CC Docket No. 01-92.  
*IP Enabled Services*, WC Docket No. 04-36.  
*Feature Group IP Petition for Forbearance from Section 251(g) of the Communications Act and Sections 51.701(b)(1) and 69.5(b) of the Commission's Rules*, WC Docket No. 07-256.

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Today, Embarq has filed a petition for forbearance under section 10 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996. The petition requests forbearance from any extension of the ESP exemption to IP-originated voice calls that terminate on the PSTN. Embarq believes the ESP exemption has never properly applied to such calls. Nonetheless, ensuring the ESP exemption is not extended or misapplied to such calls would benefit consumers, promote investment in rural areas, and protect competition by maintaining a level playing field among service providers.

Embarq's petition involves issues that are relevant to each of these proceedings. Accordingly, Embarq is filing a copy of the petition here for addition to these dockets.

Respectfully submitted,

John E. Benedict

attach.

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