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August 7, 2008

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

EX PARTE NOTICE

Re: *Petition for Waiver of Embarq, WC Docket No. 08-160.*
Developing a Unified Intercarrier Compensation Regime, CC Docket No. 01-92.

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On behalf of Embarq, David Bartlett and I met yesterday with Greg Orlando of the Federal Communications Commission. Jeff Lindsey from Embarq joined the meeting by telephone.

Embarq emphasized the importance of switched access revenues to enable investment in rural America and to promote universal service by ensuring the continued availability of high-quality, reasonably priced services even in low-density, high-costs areas. Embarq reiterated its support for the Missoula Plan, and noted that a one-size-fits-all approach to intercarrier compensation is inappropriate, given the special challenges facing rural areas.

Embarq summarized its recent petition, which seeks conditional waiver of price cap rules to allow it to unify its interstate and intrastate switched access rates by study area. Embarq explained that its petition would protect universal service in Embarq's service areas by reducing regulatory arbitrage and access evasion until comprehensive reform is completed and implemented. Granting the petition would protect consumers and have no impact on the Universal Service Fund during the interim.

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

Respectfully submitted,

John E. Benedict

cc: Greg Orlando

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