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

October 3, 2008

Re: Notice of *Ex Parte* Presentation

RE: WC Docket 05-337; CC Docket 96-45; CC Docket 01-92

Dear Ms. Dortch,

This letter is to advise you, in accordance with Section 1.1206(b) of the Commission's rules, that on October 2, 2008, Ben Scott and Derek Turner of Free Press met with Chairman Kevin Martin, Dan Gonzalez and Tamara Lipper.

We discussed the status of the aforementioned proceedings regarding reforms to the Universal Service Fund (USF) programs and the system of intercarrier compensation (ICC). We discussed the broad scope of the policies needed to ensure that changes to these regulatory structures are fair, reasonable, and consumer friendly. We expressed our concern that a shift in ICC revenues should result in increased value (or lower rates) for customers of those carriers that see cost savings and a method of cost recovery for those carriers that see cost increases that does not require a huge burden to fall on telephone rate payers in rural areas. We discussed several proposals for how resources within the USF could be set aside to balance out changes in the ICC regime—based on principles of public service, consumer welfare, fairness, and accountability. We noted our support for seizing the opportunity to achieve long term consumer benefits of universal, affordable broadband networks in rural areas.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ben Scott", is written over a horizontal line.

Ben Scott, Policy Director
Free Press, Washington Office
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