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

October 7, 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 6, 2008, Ben Scott of Free Press met with Chairman Kevin Martin and Dan Gonzalez.

We discussed the status of the aforementioned proceedings regarding reforms to the Universal Service Fund (USF) programs and the system of intercarrier compensation (ICC). The discussion focused on how major changes to these policies should be done with an endpoint of maximizing consumer welfare. I made clear that Free Press believes that any changes to these programs that result in rate increases for telephony must be offset by greater benefits in the short and medium term deployment of broadband infrastructure. Further, I noted that significant revenue shifts from ICC reform that could result in a windfall of cost savings for the RBOCs should be accompanied by consumer benefits in lower rates and expanded broadband build-out in their service territories. I indicated that we would file an analysis of the policy questions posed in these proceedings in the coming days based on principles of public service, consumer welfare, fairness, and accountability. I reiterated our support for seizing the opportunity to achieve long term consumer benefits of universal, affordable broadband networks in rural areas.

Sincerely,



Ben Scott, Policy Director
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