

The FCC appears to be involved in some very questionable activities that are possibly going to go unnoticed since the meeting is scheduled for Election Day, November 4, 2008. The FCC is rumored to be planning several changes that would once again benefit the telecommunications industry and to the detriment of the consumer.

My questions are:

1) WHY does the FCC Line Charge to our homes need to be raised? Possibly up to \$10.00 a month which is charged on every local bill and it is also taxed. The FCC Line Charge does not go to fund the FCC, but is direct revenue to the telephone company.

2) WHY does the FCC Line Charge on Business Rates need to be increased? Possibly to \$13-\$15 a month.

3) WHY raise the Universal Service Fund (USF) Tax, currently at 11.4%?

4) WHY raise or add a new USF Tax? Should customers have to pay for broadband deployment? Billions of dollars per state are already collected for broadband yet the FCC has never investigated the use of these dollars.

Instead the FCC is uninformed (except by the telephone companies) and uses flawed data on local and long distance rates in order to further raise rates.

There is no published activity of the FCC ever examining the current local rate increases or phone charges throughout the US and it is happening, simply ignored.

Please stop listening to the lobbyists and begin to better understand the real activity that is going on out there by the telecommunications industry.

Thank you the opportunity to make my comments.

Charlotte Engel