



December 11, 2008

Via Electronic Filing

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, SW, TW – A325
Washington, DC 20554

Re: WT Docket Nos. 07-195 and 04-356 – Notification of Oral Ex Parte Presentation

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On December 10, 2008, AT&T, CTIA, T-Mobile and other organizations submitted an *ex parte* letter “in support of increasing lower-income consumers’ access to broadband through the universal service Lifeline and Link Up programs.”¹ The filing highlights a statistic from the Pew Internet & American Life Project that “only 25 percent of Americans with incomes below \$20,000 subscrib[e] to broadband”² Oddly, however, the letter concludes that the Commission should use a limited number of tools to address this serious issue and should abandon a proposal that would make a free broadband service available to 95 percent of the population.

M2Z strongly supports the idea of creating special Lifeline/LinkUp universal service funds to support low income consumers' access to broadband services. We agree that such funds would promote broadband access and usage for low-income consumers, expand the enormous public benefits of broadband and should be competitively and technologically neutral. Expanding broadband access is a matter of economic necessity and survival in the globally-connected and competitive marketplace for US consumers. Moreover, expanding broadband access through various means will create 21st century jobs and stimulate the economy at a critical time in our history. A study by Connected Nation, Inc. entitled *The Economic Impact of Stimulating Broadband Nationally* released in March suggested that a national program that increased broadband penetration by a mere 7% would yield a \$134 billion positive impact to the national economy and 2.4 million additional jobs. However, the joint filing presents a false choice between expanding USF support for broadband for low-income consumers and creating a national free broadband wireless service that could benefit all Americans, including low income. The FCC can and should do both.

¹ See Letter to Chairman Martin and the Commissioners from AT&T et al, WT Docket 07-195 (filed Dec. 10, 2008).

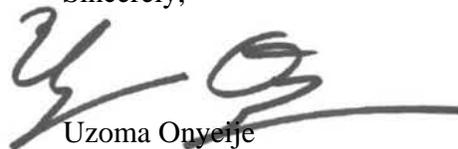
² *Id.*

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M2Z welcomes the creation of a new broadband subsidy program for low-income consumers and stands ready to participate in the national effort to bring broadband services to low-income consumers using the AWS-3 spectrum to provide free family-friendly basic service that compliments any new Lifeline/LinkUp support program. The proposed new LinkUp program would support acquisition of customer equipment, and low income consumers could use it in conjunction with AWS-3 free services to acquire necessary equipment. And low-income consumers could take advantage of both the new Lifeline and LinkUp subsidies to obtain access to the premium/pay services that the AWS-3 licensee would offer. Moreover, middle class as well as low-income consumers will benefit from the free, family-friendly, and spectrally efficient nationwide broadband service that will be introduced in the AWS-3 spectrum band.

Pursuant to Section 1.1206(b) of the Commission rules, an electronic copy of this letter is being filed. Please let me know if you have any questions regarding this submission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Uzoma Onyeije', written over a horizontal line.

cc: Mr. Charles Mathias
Mr. Bruce Gottlieb
Ms. Renée Crittendon
Ms. Angela Giancarlo
Ms. Susan Fisenne

Innovation. Freedom.