

Melissa E. Newman  
Vice President – Federal Relations  
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*Via ECFS*

EX PARTE

November 23, 2009

Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington, DC 20554

RE: *In the Matters of a National Broadband Plan for Our Future*, GN Docket No. 09-51; *International Comparison and Consumer Survey Requirements in the Broadband Data Improvement Act*, GN Docket No. 09-47; *Inquiry Concerning the Deployment of Advanced Telecommunications Capability to All Americans in a Reasonable and Timely Fashion, and Possible Steps to Accelerate Such Deployment Pursuant to Section 706 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, as Amended by the Broadband Data Improvement Act*, GN Docket No. 09-137; *Preserving the Open Internet*, GN Docket No. 09-191; *Broadband Industry Practices*, WC Docket No. 07-52; *High-Cost Universal Service Support*, WC Docket No. 05-337; *Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service*, CC Docket No. 96-45; *Universal Service Contribution Methodology*, WC Docket No. 06-122; *Developing a Unified Intercarrier Compensation Regime*, CC Docket No. 01-92; *Intercarrier Compensation for ISP-Bound Traffic*, CC Docket No. 99-68; *Special Access Rates for Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers*, WC Docket No. 05-25; *Establishing Just and Reasonable Rates for Local Exchange Carriers*, WC Docket No. 07-135

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On November 19, 2009, Qwest met in separate meetings with Commissioner Mignon Clyburn and Carol Simpson; with Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker and Christi Shewman; with Commissioner Michael Copps and Jennifer Schneider; and with Sharon Gillett, Cathy Seidel, Jennifer McKee, Marcus Maher and Alexander Minard of the Wireline Competition Bureau. Ed Mueller, Steve Davis and Melissa Newman of Qwest attended the meetings with Commissioners Clyburn and Baker. Steve Davis and Melissa Newman attended the meetings with Commissioner Copps and with the members of the Wireline Competition Bureau.

On November 20, 2009, Ed Mueller, Steve Davis and Melissa Newman met with Chairman Julius Genachowski, Priya Aiyar, Sharon Gillett, Paul De Sa and Zachary Katz; and, in a separate meeting, met with Commissioner Robert McDowell and Christine Kurth to discuss the above captioned proceedings.

Marlene H. Dortch  
November 23, 2009

Page 2 of 2

In the meetings, we discussed a number of broad issues that are the subject of pending proceedings. First, Qwest discussed the net neutrality notice of proposed rulemaking and urged the Commission to proceed carefully to avoid unintended consequences if overly broad rules are adopted. Second, Qwest urged the Commission to reform universal service and intercarrier compensation, which is essential in order to effectuate the Commission's broadband plan and to eliminate arbitrage that is hurting the industry. Third, Qwest discussed special access and urged the Commission to focus on the creation of investment and jobs when evaluating this market.

This *ex parte* is being filed electronically pursuant to 47 C.F.R. §§ 1.49(f) and 1.1206(b). Please contact me at 202.429.3120 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

/s/ Melissa E. Newman

Melissa E. Newman  
Vice President – Federal Relations

Copy via email to:

Chairman Julius Genachowski  
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker  
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn  
Commissioner Michael Copps  
Commissioner Robert McDowell  
Priya Aiyar  
Paul De Sa  
Sharon Gillett  
Zachary Katz  
Christine Kurth  
Marcus Maher  
Jennifer McKee  
Alexander Minard  
Jennifer Schneider  
Cathy Seidel  
Christi Shewman  
Carol Simpson