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February 17, 2010

Ex Parte

VIA ECFS

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: National Broadband Plan, GN Docket No. 09-51; Consumer Information and Disclosure, CG Docket No. 09-158

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On February 16, 2010, Timothy Schmidt, Tim Vogel, Donna Rynex, Mark Montano and the undersigned of Verizon met with the following Commission personnel: Peter Bowen and Byron Neal of the National Broadband Plan team; Renee Crittendon and Jeffrey Tignor of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau; William Dever of the Wireless Competition Bureau; Walter Johnston and James Miller of the Office of Engineering and Technology; and Rebecca Hirselj and Julie Saulnier of the Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau to discuss Verizon's Comments in response to the National Broadband Plan Public Notice #24.

In the meeting, the discussion focused on Verizon's views about the development and disclosure of performance metrics for wireline broadband services. Verizon indicated it is a strong proponent of informed consumer choice and of providing consumers with the information they need to make the right purchasing decisions. Verizon explained that it is in the process of investing over \$23 billion to build a state-of-the-art fiber-to-the-home broadband network and that it therefore has a strong incentive to provide consumers with good information about the strength of its network. Verizon discussed the importance of ensuring that any broadband performance metrics provide accurate and comparable information across different broadband delivery platforms and outlined a variety of technical issues associated with developing a standardized set of meaningful metrics.

Due to the technical complexities associated with standardized broadband performance metrics, developing such metrics will require substantial industry collaboration and expertise to ensure that the measurement criteria are both fair to all broadband providers and meaningful to consumers who wish to compare providers' services. Verizon urged the Commission to support a collaborative process led by industry and consumer groups working together to develop

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performance metrics and disclosure guidelines that could be widely adopted by wireline broadband providers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donna Epps". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D" and a stylized "Epps".