



CenturyLink™

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EX PARTE NOTICE

April 12, 2010

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Dkt. No. 96-45; Intercarrier Compensation for ISP-Bound Traffic, CC Dkt. No. 99-68; Developing a Unified Intercarrier Compensation Regime, CC Dkt. No. 01-92; IP-Enabled Services, WC Dkt. No. 04-36; High-Cost Universal Service Support, WC Dkt. No. 05-337; Broadband Industry Practices, WC Docket No. 07-52; A National Broadband Plan for Our Future, GN Docket No. 09-51; Preserving the Open Internet; GN Docket No. 09-191.

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On April 9, 2010, John E. Benedict and I met on behalf of CenturyLink with Sharon Gillett, Marcus Maher, Pamela Arluk, William Dever, and Jennifer Prime of the Wireline Competition Bureau. We discussed several matters before the Commission.

CenturyLink emphasized that the Commission needs to ensure revenue stability during any transition to a new intercarrier compensation and universal service regime. With respect to intercarrier compensation, in particular, rural carriers rely on the implicit high cost support reflected in access charges. CenturyLink explained that the Commission should ensure compliance with established intercarrier compensation rules and practices, and promote compliance with tariffed rates and procedures during any transition.

We also discussed the *Comcast v. FCC* decision, its implications for Commission policies and rules, and possible Commission actions regarding its jurisdiction. In this regard, CenturyLink emphasized that all broadband providers must be afforded the same freedoms and be subject to the same rules as a matter of sound economics, competition policy, and fairness, particularly in rural areas where the economics are more challenging for broadband.

Pursuant to Section 1.1206(b) of the Commission's rules, one copy of this electronic notice is being filed in each of the above-referenced dockets. Please contact me if you have any questions or need anything else.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey S Lanning

cc: Sharon Gillett, Marcus Maher, Pamela Arluk, William Dever, Jennifer Prime