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December 14, 2010

Ex Parte

VIA ECFS

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

Re: Preserving the Open Internet, GN Docket No. 09-191

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On December 13 and 14, Michael Glover and Kathleen Grillo of Verizon met separately with Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker, Brad Gillen, Wireline Legal Advisor to Commissioner Baker, and Rafi Martina, Fellow; Commissioner Michael J. Copps, John Giusti, Chief of Staff and Wireless Legal Advisor to Commissioner Michael Copps, and Margaret McCarthy, Wireline Policy Advisor to Commissioner Copps; and Commissioner Mignon Clyburn; Dave Grimaldi, Chief of Staff and Media Legal Advisor to Commissioner Clyburn, and Angela Kronenberg, Wireline Legal Advisor to Commissioner Clyburn, and Louis Peraertz, Legal Advisor, Wireless, International and Public Safety, to Commissioner Clyburn.

We stated that Verizon strongly believes in the benefits of broadband for our customers and for the national economy. We also believe that the Internet should be open, driven by informed consumer choice, and should exist in an environment that welcomes continued innovation and investment and that promotes economic growth. As a result, and in an effort to bring a sensible end to a contentious debate that has unnecessarily distracted policymakers and industry for too long, we have worked hard to reach a compromise with parties on the other side of the net neutrality debate, including with Google and with all the participants in the discussions held under the auspices of Chairman Waxman. The Waxman bill would have taken into account the fast-paced and dynamic nature of the broadband marketplace – and the likelihood of unintended consequences in this context – by establishing rules of a finite duration. And, the Waxman bill would have had Congress define the limited authority that would be available to the Commission over Internet services.

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch

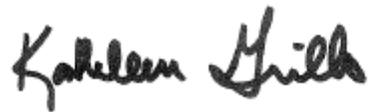
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As we have explained throughout this proceeding, we also expressed concern with any net neutrality proposal that would impose more regulation on wireless services because of the unique technical and operational challenges that are not present in the case of “wireline” services. We also discussed the benefits to consumers of offering specialized, differentiated services in addition to broadband internet access. We also expressed concern over recent press reports that the Commission now may be prepared to establish for itself a much more pervasive role in regulating Internet services based on broad jurisdictional theories.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathleen Gill". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.