



February 10, 2011

**EX PARTE**

Ms. Marlene Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: *In the Matter of Schools and Libraries Universal Service Support  
Mechanism, CC Docket No. 02-6*

Dear Ms. Dortch:

David Cohen, representing the United States Telecom Association (USTelecom), accompanied by Jeb Benedict of CenturyLink, Alan Buzacott of Verizon, Ernest Bond of AT&T (by phone) and Catherine Baskett of CenturyLink (by phone) met on February 9<sup>th</sup> with members of the Commission's E-rate team, including Adrian Wright, Regina Brown, Mark Nadel, Greg Lipscomb, James Bachtell, Christopher Grant, Wesley Gee and Anita Patankar-Stoll. USTelecom provided suggestions as to issues that should be raised in the next E-rate program NPRM. Those suggestions included:

- Recognizing that the E-rate disbursement process would be simplified and made more efficient for all parties (beneficiaries, service providers and USAC) by creating a process that removes service providers from the USAC funding flow equation,
- Including in the NPRM the issues raised in a Petition for Declaratory Ruling jointly filed by USTelecom and CTIA concerning the "Lowest Corresponding Price" obligation. The NPRM should help the Commission act promptly on the issues raised in the petition,
- Updating the discount matrix formula to include additional criteria to more appropriately match a school's or library's current needs with funding distributions, such as including a broadband capability factor in the discount matrix formula.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Cohen".

David Cohen  
Vice President, Policy

cc: Adrian Wright  
James Bachtell

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Regina Brown  
Wesley Gee  
Christopher Grant  
Greg Lipscomb  
Mark Nadel  
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