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PLEASE RESPOND TO LINCOLN ADDRESS

May 10, 2011

VIA ECFS

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

Re: *Notice of Ex Parte Presentation – In the Matter of Connect America Fund, WC Docket No. 10-90; A National Broadband Plan for Our Future, GN Docket No. 09-51; Establishing Just and Reasonable Rates for Local Exchange Carriers, WC Docket No. 07-135; High-Cost Universal Service Support, WC Docket No. 05-337; Developing a Unified Intercarrier Compensation Regime, CC Docket No. 01-92; Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45; and Lifeline and Link-Up, WC Docket No. 03-109.*

Dear Ms. Dortch:

The Nebraska Rural Independent Companies,¹ by counsel, and pursuant 47 C.F.R. §1.1206(b)(1), hereby file this written ex parte in the above-captioned proceedings. The attached written presentation entitled “Predicting the Operating Expenses of Rate-of-Return Telecommunications Companies” (the “Study”) is being submitted for the record in this proceeding. As noted in the attachment, the Study addresses the Commission Staff’s request for a regression

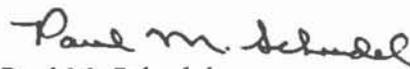
¹ The Nebraska Rural Independent Companies are: Arlington Telephone Company, Blair Telephone Company, Cambridge Telephone Co., Clarks Telecommunications Co., Consolidated Telephone Company, Consolidated Telco, Inc., Consolidated Telecom, Inc., The Curtis Telephone Company, Eastern Nebraska Telephone Company, Great Plains Communications, Inc., Hamilton Telephone Company, Hartington Telecommunications Co., Inc., Hershey Cooperative Telephone Company, Inc., K & M Telephone Company, Inc., The Nebraska Central Telephone Company, Northeast Nebraska Telephone Company, Rock County Telephone Company, Stanton Telephone Co., Inc., and Three River Telco.

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analysis of data regarding operating expenses of rate-of-return companies that operate voice and broadband-capable networks in rural areas of the United States.

The Study is part of a joint effort undertaken by the Nebraska Rural Independent Companies and the Telergee Alliance firms. As noted in the Study at page 1, the Telergee Alliance firms include Berry, Dunn, McNeil & Parker; Bolinger, Segars, Gilbert & Moss LLP; Jackson Thornton; Kiesling Associates LLP; Moss Adams LLP; Olsen Thielen & Co., Ltd.; and Turlington and Company LLP.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul M. Schudel". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "P" and "M".

Paul M. Schudel
Counsel to the
Nebraska Rural Independent Companies

Attachments