



NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION

The Voice of Rural Telecommunications

www.ntca.org

August 9, 2011

Ex Parte Notice

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

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 01-92; Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45; Lifeline and Link-Up, WC Docket No. 03-109

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On Friday, August 5, 2011, Shirley Bloomfield, Chief Executive Officer of the National Telecommunications Cooperative Association (NTCA) had a telephone conversation with FCC Chairman Genachowski regarding the above referenced matter. During that call, Ms. Bloomfield discussed the benefits of the joint reform rural plan for universal service and intercarrier compensation and the challenges that small, rural carriers faced finding common ground with other carriers. She discussed the importance of keeping the parameters of the reform framework of the proposed “America’s Broadband Connectivity Plan” in place and explained that any changes will make it difficult to achieve industry consensus.

The opinions expressed by Ms. Bloomfield in this regard were consistent with NTCA’s prior filings in this proceeding, including but not limited to those positions stated in NTCA’s Comments and Reply Comments filed on April 1, 2011 and April 18, 2011, respectively, and the July 29, 2011 *ex parte* letter of USTelecom announcing its endorsement of America’s Broadband Connectivity Plan.

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Pursuant to Section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, a copy of this letter is being filed via ECFS with your office. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (703) 351-2020 or jcanfield@ntca.org.

Sincerely,

/s/ Jill Canfield
Jill Canfield

Director, Legal & Industry

cc: Julius Genachowski