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October 21, 2011

Electronic Submission

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

Re: Ex parte

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 October 20th, Robert Quinn, Cathy Carpino, Joel Lubin and I on behalf of AT&T, met with Commissioner Robert McDowell and his legal advisor Christine Kurth. During the meeting we discussed the Commission's plans to reform universal service and intercarrier compensation. We noted that the changes described in Chairman Genachowski's recent speech would help to bring about a sea change in the telecommunications business for rural and high cost areas. This sea change will ultimately change the regulatory paradigm and mission for federal and state regulators. We urged the Commission to reform the federal obligations associated with eligible telecommunications carriers (ETCs) to ensure that ETC obligations exist only in areas and for entities that receive funding from the Universal Service Fund.

Pursuant to section 1.1206 of the Commission's Rules, this letter is being filed electronically with your office for inclusion in the public record of the above referenced proceedings.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 457-3821.

Sincerely,

/s/ Henry Hultquist

cc: Commissioner Robert McDowell
Christine Kurth