

Benton Foundation
1250 Connecticut Ave., NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20036

November 16, 2011

NOTICE OF EX PARTE

Ms. Marlene Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St. SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: Lifeline Link Up Reform and Modernization - WC Docket No. 11-42
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 Wednesday November 16, 2011 Amina Fazlullah of the Benton Foundation¹ had a call with Zac Katz Chief Counsel and Senior Legal Advisor regarding the above caption Lifeline and Link Up proceedings. The Benton Foundation urged the Commission to transition the Lifeline and Link Up programs to include broadband. Benton discussed the possible benefits to be gained from evaluating data from existing pilot programs such as “Connect to Compete” and the Sustainable Broadband Adoption (SBA) programs.

Sincerely,

/s/

Amina Fazlullah
Policy Counsel
Benton Foundation

¹ www.benton.org, Benton Foundation public filings, including but not limited to these reply comments, represent the institutional view of the Foundation as opposed to the views of any individual officer or director.