

January 30, 2012

VIA ECFS

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

Re: Notice of Permitted Ex Parte Presentation, WC Docket No. 10-90; GN Docket No. 09-51; WC Docket No. 07-135; WC Docket No. 05-337; CC Docket No. 01-92; CC Docket No. 96-45; WC Docket No. 03-109; WT Docket 10-208

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On January 27, 2012, the undersigned, along with Alison Binney of Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP, met with Irene Flannery and Geoffrey Blackwell of the Office of Native Affairs and Policy of the Federal Communications Commission (“FCC” or “Commission”) on behalf of Gila River Telecommunications, Inc. (“GRTI”) to discuss the Report and Order adopted by the FCC in the above-captioned proceeding and the likely adverse effects that the new Universal Service Fund (“USF”) and intercarrier compensation (“ICC”) rules will have on residents of tribal lands. GRTI is a telecommunications carrier that is wholly-owned and operated by the Gila River Indian Community (“GRIC”). GRTI was an active participant in the above-captioned proceeding.

In the *ex parte* meeting, GRTI discussed the negative financial impact that the new rules will have on GRTI as it attempts to increase broadband adoption in the GRIC. Specifically, GRTI estimates that the new USF and ICC rules will reduce the amount of USF support GRTI receives in 2012 by \$1.6 million as compared to 2011. Such a loss of support could have a detrimental effect on the pricing and/or level of telecommunications services in the GRIC and GRTI’s ongoing efforts to deploy fiber-to-the home and businesses in the GRIC. GRTI believes such an impact is contrary to the public interest.

