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**Ex Parte**

Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW  
Room TW-A325  
Washington, DC 20554

**Re: Special Access Rates for Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers, WC Docket No. 05-25 and RM-10593**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Together with Verizon's Maggie McCready and Ed Shakin, I met last Friday with Michael Steffen, Legal Advisor to the Chairman, Nick Alexander and Travis Litman of the Wireline Competition Bureau, and Sharon Gillett, Chief of the Wireline Competition Bureau, who participated by phone. We discussed the draft order currently on circulation regarding the Commission's special access rules. We expressed Verizon's concern that any order addressing the current special access pricing flexibility framework could prejudice the outcome of the Commission's ongoing analysis of the marketplace before the Commission has collected the competitive data it needs to complete its review. The Commission has acknowledged that it does not have the necessary data to accurately assess the level of competition, and that it plans to seek additional data from the relevant parties. We explained that before collecting these additional data, the Commission should not take any action that could affect the substantive evaluation of the existing pricing flexibility framework. We also questioned the factual basis in the order for concluding that the existing framework is flawed, given that the Commission has yet to collect all the necessary data.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donna Epps".

cc: Michael Steffen  
Sharon Gillett  
Nick Alexander  
Travis Litman