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## NOTICE OF EX PARTE

February 7, 2013

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

Re: *Connect America Fund*, WC Docket 10-90

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On February 6, 2013, Steve Davis, Jeff Lanning and Melissa Newman of CenturyLink met with Michael Steffen of the office of Chairman Genachowski and Carol Matthey of the Wireline Competition Bureau to discuss the above-captioned proceeding.

We discussed Connect American Fund Phase I Incremental Support (CAF I). Specifically, we encouraged the Commission to more quickly adopt the modest and easily-implemented proposal filed jointly by the ABC Coalition, the Independent Telephone and Telecommunications Association (ITTA), and the United States Telecom Association (USTelecom).<sup>1</sup> CenturyLink explained that, with this proposal, well over 150,000 homes and businesses would gain access to broadband in areas served by CenturyLink. Moreover, putting this funding to work now would facilitate rather than distract from the transition to Connect America Fund Phase II support by maintaining the momentum of broadband deployment in rural America.

Sincerely,

/s/ Melissa Newman

Copy via email to:  
Michael Steffen  
Carol Matthey

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<sup>1</sup> Comments of the ABC Coalition, ITTA & USTelecom, *Connect America Fund*, WC Docket 10-90, filed Jan. 28, 2013.