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Electronic Submission

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

Ex parte

RE: CC-Docket No. 02-6 Schools and Libraries Universal Service Support Mechanism

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On June 25, 2013 Mary Henze, Terri Hoskins and I (of AT&T) met with Trent Harkrader, Kim Scardino, and Lisa Hone of the Wireline Competition Bureau and Michael Steffen of the Office of Strategic Planning to discuss potential ways to update the E-rate program to support President Obama's ConnectED initiative. AT&T believes that ensuring every child has access to robust broadband connections in their schools is an important part of addressing our country's educational issues and is ready to help realize that vision.

Modernizing the E-rate program, AT&T pointed out, is an important component of planning for the inevitable transition to an all-IP world. With targeted changes to the E-rate program schools and libraries can be at the leading edge of the IP-transition rather than risk being left behind. During the meeting AT&T explored a variety of ideas for program modifications, such as: setting aside funding for schools and libraries who have no broadband or only very low-speed broadband; reducing or removing support for non-IP technologies; and, disbursing funds directly to beneficiaries instead of using service providers and their bills for delivery of program benefits. Modifying the disbursement mechanism would provide substantial efficiencies and enhance the Commission's ability to detect and prevent funding errors. Rather than maintaining a "one program fits all" approach, AT&T encouraged the Commission to consider using E-rate 2.0 to support and achieve more clearly defined policy goals.

Pursuant to Section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, this ex parte notice is being filed electronically for inclusion in the record of the above-referenced proceeding. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

/s/ Ernie Bond

Director

Federal Regulatory

Cc: Trent Harkrader
Kim Scardino
Lisa Hone
Michael Steffen