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December 5, 2013

**VIA ECFS**

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

Re: **Correction to Notice of *Ex Parte* Discussion in WC Docket No. 10-90, WC Docket No. 05-337, CC Docket No. 96-45, WT Docket No. 10-208**

**The Need for Expanded Deployment of High-Speed Broadband in Rural Areas**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On December 4, 2013, Deere & Company along with other representative companies and associations from the agricultural sector filed notices of separate ex parte meetings that were held on December 2, 2013 with the Commissioners offices and with staff from the Wireline Competition Bureau and Wireless Telecommunications Bureau. Subsequent to filing it has come to our attention that the ex parte notices incorrectly referred to the National Corn Growers Association (NCGA) as the American Corn Growers Association (ACGA). The attached notice has been corrected to reflect the association as NCGA.

Any questions regarding this submission may be directed to the undersigned.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ electronically signed

Catherine Wang

cc (by e-mail):  
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn  
Rebekah Goodheart

Enclosure

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Via ECFS

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Room TW-A325  
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: Notice of *Ex Parte* Discussion in WC Docket No. 10-90, WC Docket No. 05-337, CC Docket No. 96-45, WT Docket No. 10-208**

**The Need for Expanded Deployment of High-Speed Broadband in Rural Areas**

**Dear Ms. Dortch:**

On December 2, 2013, Mark N. Lewellen, Spectrum Manager, Deere & Company, Nick Tindall, Director, Government Affairs, American Equipment Manufacturers (AEM), Jason O'Flanagan, Business Development Specialist, AGCO, Bob Young, American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF), Ethan Mathews, Manager, Public Policy and Regulatory Affairs, National Corn Growers Association (NCGA) and the undersigned outside counsel met with Commissioner Clyburn and Rebekah Goodheart, Legal Advisor to Commissioner Clyburn, to discuss support through the Commission's universal service fund and similar mechanisms for expanded high-speed broadband services in rural areas where most farming occurs.

This group of major U.S. and global agricultural interests explained why accelerated deployment of high-speed broadband across rural areas is essential to the U.S. agricultural sector. Specifically, we discussed how high-speed broadband services have become critical for maximizing yield from the land, managing costs and application of seed, fertilizer, and water, complying with environmental regulations, and enabling advanced telematics. All of these uses are fundamental to the precision agriculture techniques prevalent in modern farming today.

Given the importance of supporting U.S. and global food production, we recommended that the Commission consider machine-to-machine broadband transmissions by mobile agricultural equipment in the field as well as fixed broadband operations on the farm in its proceedings relating to universal service support. Existing proposals do not adequately reflect the significant and growing use of broadband services by multiple farming devices in the field. Precision farming data gathered and reported in near-real time is used for advanced telematics and agronomic analysis that are integral to precision agriculture. Such data is also key to meeting requirements for federal crop insurance and certain customer requirements. We discussed these points and further details set forth in the attached presentation.

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For the above reasons, we recommended that the Commission account for machine-to-machine broadband use in the above-captioned proceedings, consider funding for rural broadband as a top priority, and accelerate the agency's decision-making in this area.

Please direct any questions regarding this meeting to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

*/electronically signed/*  
Catherine Wang

CC: Commissioner Mignon Clyburn  
Rebekah Goodheart

Enclosure