



April 4, 2014

***Ex Parte Notice***

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: *Connect America Fund, WC Docket No. 10-90; High-Cost Universal Service Support, WC Docket No. 05-337; AT&T Petition to Launch a Proceeding Concerning the TDM-to-IP Transition; Petition of NTCA for a Rulemaking to Promote and Sustain the Ongoing TDM-to-IP Evolution, GN Docket No. 12-353; Technology Transitions Policy Task Force, GN Docket No. 13-5; Modernizing the E-Rate Program for Schools and Libraries, WC Docket No. 13-184***

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On Wednesday, April 2, 2014, the undersigned, on behalf of NTCA–The Rural Broadband Association (“NTCA”), met with Amy Bender, legal advisor to Commissioner Michael O’Rielly.

During this meeting, we discussed updates to the high-cost and e-rate universal service programs. NTCA’s positions with respect to these matters as expressed in the meeting were consistent with those stated in prior filings in the above-referenced proceedings. *See* Comments of NTCA, *et al.*, WC Docket No. 10-90, *et al.* (filed March 31, 2014), at 4-17 (discussing the context and legal framework within which rural broadband experiments should be undertaken); *Ex Parte* Letter from Michael R. Romano, Sr. Vice President-Policy, NTCA, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, Federal Communications Commission (the “Commission”), WC Docket No. 10-90, *et al.*, (filed Feb. 18, 2014) (urging adoption of an updated, broadband-focused support mechanism tailored for the operations of smaller providers that serve exclusively rural areas); Comments of NTCA, *et al.*, WC Docket No. 13-184 (filed Sept. 16, 2013), at 6-18 (describing a structural framework for use of E-rate resources to support sufficient and affordable capacity and services at individual schools and libraries).

Marlene H. Dortch

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Thank you for your attention to this correspondence. Pursuant to Section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, a copy of this letter is being filed via ECFS.

Sincerely,

/s/ Michael R. Romano

Michael R. Romano

Senior Vice President – Policy

cc: Amy Bender