



May 5, 2022

Ex Parte Notice

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
45 L Street, NE
Washington, DC 20554

RE: *Connect America Fund, WC Docket No. 10-90*

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On Wednesday, May 4, 2022, the undersigned on behalf of NTCA–The Rural Broadband Association (“NTCA”) spoke with Justin Faulb, wireline and national security advisor to Commissioner Geoffrey Starks, regarding matters in the above-referenced proceeding.

During this conversation, NTCA expressed support for the grant of a waiver by the Federal Communications Commission (the “Commission”) of the 14.3% reduction in Connect America Fund Broadband Loop Support and/or High Cost Loop Support that is poised to take effect on July 1, 2022. NTCA observed that the Commission granted similar relief last year, that the reasons underlying the prior waiver continue to apply in 2022, and that changes in the broadband marketplace since that time only further underscore the need and justification for relief this year. *See also Ex Parte* Letter from Michael R. Romano, Sr. Vice President, NTCA, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, Commission, WC Docket No. 10-90 (filed Apr. 29, 2022). NTCA further expressed an eagerness to work with the Commission to develop longer-term solutions that would put these critical support programs on a more stable foundation going forward.

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 Romano

Michael Romano

Senior Vice President –

Industry Affairs and Business Development

cc: Justin Faulb