



November 1, 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; ETC Annual Reports and Certifications, WC Docket No. 14-58; Telecommunications Carriers Eligible to Receive Universal Service Support, WC Docket No. 09-197; Connect America Fund – Alaska Plan, WC Docket No. 16-271; Expanding Broadband Service Through the A-CAM Program, RM-11868*

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On Monday, October 31, 2022, the undersigned on behalf of NTCA–The Rural Broadband Association (“NTCA”), Ryan Boone of Premier Communications, Denny Law of Golden West Telecommunications, Catherine Moyer of Pioneer Communications, Roger Nishi of Waitsfield & Champlain Valley Telecom, Jennifer Prather of Totelcom Communications, and Jonathan West of Twin Lakes Telephone Cooperative spoke with Danielle Thumann from the office of Commissioner Brendan Carr regarding matters in the above-referenced proceedings.

In our meeting, we discussed the proposals put forth by NTCA for updates to the Alternative Connect America Model (“A-CAM”) and the Connect America Fund-Broadband Loop Support (“CAF-BLS”) mechanism. *See* Comments of NTCA, WC Docket No. 10-90, *et al.* (filed July 18, 2022); Reply Comments of NTCA, WC Docket No. 10-90, *et al.* (filed Aug. 1, 2022); *Ex Parte* Letter from Michael R. Romano, Executive Vice President, NTCA, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, Federal Communications Commission (the “Commission”), WC Docket No. 10-90, *et al.* (filed Oct. 14, 2022). We explained how the proposals had been developed initially to promote delivery and sustainability of high-speed broadband and voice services throughout rural serving areas, and explained what refinements and further suggestions had been made to improve and enhance these proposals more recently. In particular, we discussed the challenges of serving rural consumers across far-reaching rural geographies, how NTCA’s universal service reform proposals would help address those challenges and spur expanded delivery of high-quality and reliable services while working in concert with other initiatives aimed at similar goals, and what should be done to target support to where it is needed most. We urged the Commission to act with respect to both A-CAM and CAF-BLS updates as soon as possible in light of impending deadlines in these programs and to promote even more effective coordination with other governmental broadband programs already in place and those still being implemented.

Marlene H. Dortch
November 1, 2022
Page 2 of 2

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
Executive Vice President

cc: Danielle Thumann