

February 9, 2024

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 Thursday, February 8, 2024, the undersigned, on behalf of NTCA—The Rural Broadband Association ("NTCA"), spoke with Suzanne Yelen and Ted Burmeister from the Wireline Competition Bureau regarding matters in the above-referenced proceedings.

Our conversation focused on the resolution of outstanding location and broadband coverage issues under the Enhanced Alternative Connect America Cost Model ("A-CAM") program through the incorporation of mapping data intended to capture service "that existed at the time Enhanced A-CAM offers were made." Connect America Fund, et al., WC Docket No. 10-90, et al., Report and Order, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, and Notice of Inquiry (rel. July 24, 2023), at ¶ 43; see also Wireline Competition Bureau Announces Guidance Regarding Locations and Broadband Coverage for Enhanced Alternative Connect America Cost Model Mechanism, WC Docket No. 10-90, DA 24-78, Public Notice (rel. Jan. 25, 2024). We discussed how providers could establish broadband availability or a lack thereof as it existed as of this date specified in the order. Particularly if data are imprecise in this regard, NTCA noted that its request for potential relief from certain Enhanced A-CAM commitments could become even more important. See Petition for Reconsideration and/or Clarification of NTCA, WC Docket Nos. 10-90, et al. (filed Sept. 15, 2023), at 14-16.

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: Suzanne Yelen Ted Burmeister