



June 23, 2016

Ex Parte Notice

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

RE: *Connect America Fund, WC Docket No. 10-90; ETC Annual Reports and Certifications, WC Docket No. 14-58; Developing a Unified Intercarrier Compensation Regime, CC Docket No. 01-92*

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On Tuesday, June 21, 2016, the undersigned on behalf of NTCA–The Rural Broadband Association (“NTCA”) held separate telephone conversations with Travis Litman, legal advisor to Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel, and Nicholas Degani, legal advisor to Commissioner Ajit Pai, regarding issues in the above-referenced proceedings.

In these discussions, NTCA expressed appreciation for ongoing efforts to provide greater clarity related to implementation of the recently released universal service fund (“USF”) reform order in the above-referenced proceedings. Along those same lines, NTCA encouraged the Federal Communications Commission (the “Commission”) to develop a clear implementation schedule that will enable all reforms (model and non-model) to take effect at approximately the same time to the extent possible, and to provide carriers with sufficient estimates, calculations, and other data in advance of any implementation deadlines to help inform upcoming USF support elections. NTCA further raised, however, specific questions regarding the application of a budget control on USF mechanisms effective as of July 1, 2016, as indicated in a recent implementation/clarification order released by the Wireline Competition Bureau. In particular, NTCA observed that, while obtaining clarification as soon as possible regarding the calculation of the budget control would be helpful as contemplated by the text of the order, the actual language of the rule establishing the budget control prescribes a process providing for greater notice than just a few weeks or days prior to application of that budget control.

Marlene H. Dortch

June 23, 2016

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 R. Romano

Michael R. Romano

Senior Vice President – Policy

cc: Travis Litman
Nicholas Degani