



November 15, 2017

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*

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On Tuesday, November 14, 2017, the undersigned on behalf of NTCA–The Rural Broadband Association (“NTCA”), held separate telephone conversations with Jay Schwarz, wireline advisor to Chairman Ajit Pai, and Amy Bender, wireline advisor to Commissioner Michael O’Rielly, regarding matters in the above-referenced proceeding.

Consistent with prior advocacy, NTCA highlighted the need to remedy shortfalls in high-cost universal service fund (“USF”) support that are undermining the intended effectiveness of the USF programs as reformed last year. NTCA urged in particular that the Federal Communications Commission (the “Commission”) pursue recommended, readily available paths toward helping to mitigate the pervasive insufficiency of USF support. *See Ex Parte* Letter from Michael R. Romano, Sr. Vice President, NTCA, to Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary, Commission, WC Docket No. 10-90 (filed Aug. 15, 2017).

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 –
Industry Affairs & Business Development

cc: Jay Schwarz
Amy Bender