



December 6, 2018

***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; Establishing Just and Reasonable Rates for Local Exchange Carriers, WC Docket No. 07-135; Developing a Unified Intercarrier Compensation Regime, CC Docket No. 01-92***

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On Monday, December 3, 2018, Shirley Bloomfield, Chief Executive Officer of NTCA-The Rural Broadband Association (“NTCA”) spoke with Commissioner Michael O’Rielly. Ms. Bloomfield held a separate conversation with Commissioner Brendan Carr and Jamie Susskind, chief of staff to Commissioner Carr, on December 6.

In each conversation, NTCA expressed support for the draft order with respect to universal service fund (“USF”) support circulated recently for a potential vote by the Federal Communications Commission (the “Commission”) at its December open meeting. NTCA spoke of the importance of seeking to fulfill statutory mandates with respect to predictability and sufficiency, promoting the effectiveness of existing USF support mechanisms, and advancing important public policy objectives with respect to promoting network investment and ensuring the availability of services for the benefit of consumers on a reasonably comparable basis between rural and urban areas.

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: Commissioner Michael O’Rielly  
Commissioner Brendan Carr  
Jamie Susskind