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August 18, 2010

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

Re: In the Matter of A National Broadband Plan for Our Future, GN Docket No. 09-51 and
High Cost Universal Service Support, WC Docket No. 05-337

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On August 17, 2010 representatives of rural incumbent local telephone companies met with Commission staff to discuss issues regarding potential modifications of the Universal Service Fund contribution methodology. FCC staff included Amy Bender, Vickie Robinson, Chin Yoo, Elise Kohn, Carol Pomponio and Claudia Fox, all of the Wireline Competition Bureau. ILEC representatives included John Rose and Stuart Polikoff, Organization for the Promotion and Advancement of Small Telecommunications Companies (OPASTCO); Paul Cooper, the Rural Alliance; Derrick Owens, Western Telecommunications Alliance (WTA) and Gerry Duffy, of counsel representing WTA; Tom Wacker, National Telecommunications Cooperative Association (NTCA); and the undersigned.

Discussion covered the relative merits of various contribution methodologies. ILEC representatives asserted the contribution base should be expanded in the most effective and efficient manner and generally repeated their views already on the record.

Questions regarding this meeting may be directed to my attention.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joe A. Douglas". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

cc: Amy Bender
Vickie Robinson
Carol Pomponio
Chin Yoo
Claudia Fox
Elise Kohn