



Advocates for Rural Broadband

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March 10, 2014

Filed Via ECFS

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: WC Docket No. 13-184

Dear Ms Dortch:

On Thursday, March 6, 2014, Derrick Owens, Noah Cherry and Gerry Duffy representing WTA - Advocates for Rural Broadband (“WTA”) met with Nicholas Alexander, Allison Baker, Michael Byrne and Anne Levine of the Office of Strategic Planning & Policy Analysis; and with Kate Dumouchel, Charles Eberle, Lisa Hone and Mark Walker of the Wireline Competition Bureau’s Telecommunications Access Policy Division, to discuss the types of relevant and useful information which WTA members might submit to the Commission in the referenced Schools and Libraries Program (“E-Rate”) docket.

It was agreed that there are generally two categories of relevant information: (1) what facilities and services are being provided currently by the WTA member or other rural local exchange carrier (“RLEC”); and (2) what additional facilities and services might the WTA member or other RLEC deploy in the future.

Current network and service information would include: (a) types of connections to schools and libraries; (b) broadband speeds presently offered, plus the price of each speed level or tier; (c) the broadband speeds actually subscribed to by particular schools and libraries; and (d) applicable NECA tariff rates. There was also discussion regarding how to best identify particular schools, with National Center of Education Statistics (“NCES”) codes being preferred but names and physical addresses also being acceptable.

Future deployment information (where a particular school or library is not presently served by fiber) could include matters such as: (a) the current distance of the school or library to the closest fiber node; and (b) whether the wire center serving the school or library has been upgraded to support fiber.

There was also a discussion of the applicable protective order governing the rulemaking, and the right and ability of the participating WTA members and other RLECs to redact proprietary and confidential information.

Pursuant to Section 1.1206(b) of the Commission's Rules, this submission is being filed for inclusion in the public record of the referenced proceeding.

Respectfully submitted,

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