



Advocates for Rural Broadband

Jerry Piper
President

Kelly Worthington
Executive Vice President

January 24, 2018

Filed Via ECFS

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

RE: *Connect America Fund, WC Docket No. 10-90*

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On Monday, January 22, 2018, Derrick Owens and Gerry Duffy representing WTA – Advocates for Rural Broadband (WTA) met with Amy Bender, Legal Advisor, Wireline to Commissioner Michael O’Rielly, to discuss various Universal Service Fund (USF) matters.

The discussion was basically general and high-level. WTA expressed support for review and increase of the overall High Cost program budget, for additional USF support for rural telephone companies on both the Alternative Connect America Cost Model (ACAM) path and the legacy Rate-of-Return path, and for relief from the impact of the budget control mechanisms in Sections 54.901(f) and 54.1310(d) of the Rules. WTA also discussed the pending rural association proposal regarding the status of various expenses with respect to the calculation of High Cost Support and interstate revenue requirements.

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 proceedings.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Gerard J. Duffy

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