



September 24, 2007

Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20054

**Re: NOTICE OF *EX PARTE* PRESENTATION  
*Federal-State Board on Universal Service*  
CC Docket No. 96-45  
WC Docket No. 05-337**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

This morning, Derrick Owens and Gerard Duffy, on behalf of the Western Telecommunications Alliance (WTA), Stuart Polikoff, on behalf of the Organization for the Promotion and Advancement of Small Telecommunications Companies (OPASTCO), and Joshua Seidemann, on behalf of the Independent Telephone & Telecommunications Alliance (ITTA), met with Scott Deutchman of Commissioner Michael Copps's office the above-captioned proceeding.

The associations reiterated their support for the Joint Board's recommendation to impose a temporary cap on support for competitive eligible telecommunications carriers (CETCs), which have been demonstrated to be the cause of recent rapid growth in the Universal Service Fund. The associations support the cap as a reasonable interim measure while long-term solutions are developed.

The undersigned may be contacted should you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

s/Derrick Owens  
Derrick Owens  
Director of Government Affairs  
Western Telecommunications Alliance  
317 Massachusetts Avenue, NE, Suite 300C  
Washington, DC 20002

s/Stuart Polikoff  
Stuart Polikoff  
Director of Government Relations  
OPASTCO  
21 Dupont Circle, NW, Suite 700  
Washington, DC 20036

s/Joshua Seidemann  
Director, Regulatory Policy  
ITTA  
975 F Street, NW, Suite 550  
Washington, DC 20004

cc: Commissioner Michael Copps  
Scott Deutchman