

975 F Street, NW, Suite 550
Washington, DC 20004
January 16, 2008

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th 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:

Today, Jeffrey Lanning of Embarq, Curt Stamp and the undersigned of the Independent Telephone & Telecommunications Alliance, Michael Mallinger of the Organization for the Promotion and Advancement of Small Telecommunications Companies (OPASTCO), Melissa Newman of Qwest, David Cohen of USTelecom, Kathleen Grillo of Verizon, Gerard Duffy on behalf of the Western Telecommunications Alliance (WTA), and Eric Einhorn of Windstream met with John Hunter of Commissioner Robert M. McDowell's office to discuss the Federal-State Joint Board's recommendation to impose an interim cap on Universal Service Fund support for competitive eligible telecommunications carriers. This notice of *ex parte* appearance is submitted on behalf of the parties listed above.

Consistent with positions each has filed previously in the above-captioned proceeding, the parties stated their individual and collective support for the immediate adoption of an interim cap as a necessary part of comprehensive USF reform.

Respectfully submitted,

s/ Joshua Seidemann
Joshua Seidemann

cc: Commissioner Robert M. McDowell
John Hunter