



POLICY & ACTION FROM CONSUMER REPORTS

September 26, 2011

Marlene Dortch  
Secretary,  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 Twelfth Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: *Ex Parte* Notice  
CG Docket Nos. 10-207 and 09-158 (Bill Shock)  
CC Docket No. 98-170 (Truth in Billing)  
WC Docket No. 10-90 (Connect America Fund)  
GN Docket No. 09-51 (National Broadband Plan)  
WC Docket No. 07-135 (Establishing Just & Reasonable Rates for LECs)  
WC Docket No. 05-337 (High-Cost Universal Service Support)  
CC Docket No. 01-92 (Developing United ICC Regime)  
CC Docket No. 96-45 (Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service)  
WC Docket No. 03-109 (Lifeline and Link-Up)  
WT Docket No. 11-65 (AT&T/T-Mobile Merger)

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On September 22, 2011, Parul P. Desai, Bob Williams and Michelle R. Schaefer of Consumers Union; Amalia Deloney, Betty Yu, Brandi Collins and Oshen Turman of Center for Media Justice; Chancellor Williams and Misty Perez Truedson of Free Press; Qres Ephraim of Workers Union; Marlom Portillo of IDEPSCA; Chrystiane Pereira of Media Access Project; Albert Sykes of MS Young Peoples Project; Elandria Williams of Highlander Research and Education Center; Sage Crump of Art is Change; Ana Montes of TURN; Ernesto Falcon of Public Knowledge; and, Michael Scurato of National Hispanic Media Coalition, collectively referred to as "Participants," met with Commissioner Clyburn, as well as Angie Kronenberg, the Commissioner's Wireline legal advisor, and Louis Peraertz, the Commissioner's legal advisor for Wireless, International, and Public Safety.

In separate meetings, Participants also met with Commissioner Copps and his advisors Mark Stone, Margaret McCarthy, and Joshua Cinelli. Finally, Participants also had a separate meeting with Chairman Genachowski and his chief counsel, Zac Katz.

Participants discussed why it is important to protect consumers, communities of color, and low-income communities by rejecting AT&T's request to merge with T-Mobile, by protecting the Universal Service Fund's Lifeline program and covering broadband in the

Universal Service Fund, and by promoting broadband build out and adoption. Participants shared stories from their local communities to illustrate their points.

For example, one participant discussed the ABC Plan for USF. She pointed out the flaws in the plan that would negatively affect her community. Specifically, she voiced concerns that the ABC Plan does not require deployment or cost-controlling measure that would cater to underserved and low-income and rural customers. She also explained how important it is to have a comment period on whatever plan for USF is adopted, once the proposed rules are released.

Another participant explained how expensive telecommunications services already are. He urged the Commissioners and Chairman to protect current prices during USF reform, and to make it so costs to consumers are not increased during any reform discussions or final rules. Along the same lines of USF reform, another participant urged the Commission to include funding for community broadband networks in any USF reform plan.

Pursuant to Section 1.1206(b) of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. §1.1206(b), this letter is being filed electronically with your office today.

Respectfully Submitted,

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

Michelle Schaefer  
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