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HENRY A. WAXMAN, CALIFORNIA
RANKING MEMBER

ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH CONGRESS
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE
2125 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6115

Majority (202) 225-2927
Minority (202) 225-3641

October 6, 2011

The Honorable Julius Genachowski
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

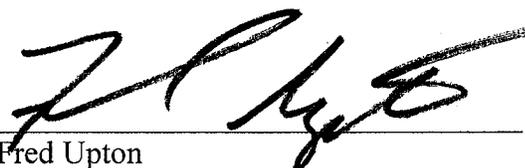
We are aware that the Federal Communications Commission (Commission) is currently grappling with reforming the Universal Service Fund (USF) and intercarrier compensation (ICC) and has scheduled this issue for consideration at its public meeting on October 27, 2011. The USF and ICC have been broken for several years and the time has come for the Commission to reform both.

The Commission has received extensive input on these issues over numerous years from Congress, the general public, and various industry and public interest groups. Several reform proposals have been filed with the Commission for its consideration.

The Commission stands at a historic crossroads in these efforts. It is time for the Commission to consider the input from all parties and implement USF and ICC reforms that stringently control costs, encourage competition, reduce arbitrage, and focus the fund on serving rural consumers who need it. We encourage you to do so at your October meeting.

If you have any questions, please contact Committee staff Neil Fried or Ray Baum at (202) 225-2927.

Sincerely,



Fred Upton
Chairman



Greg Walden
Chairman
Subcommittee on Communications and Technology

Letter to the Honorable Julius Genachowski
Page 2

cc: The Honorable Henry A. Waxman, Ranking Member

The Honorable Anna Eshoo, Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Communications and Technology

Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Michael Copps
Commissioner Robert McDowell