JULIUS GENACHOWSKI

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

July 2, 2012

The Honorable John Cornyn United States Senate 517 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Cornyn:

Thank you for your letter regarding Big Bend Telephone Company's petition for waiver. I appreciate your bringing this matter to my attention and have directed the Chief of the Wireline Competition Bureau's Telecommunications Access Policy Division to respond. I am pleased to provide the enclosed letter addressing your concerns.

If you have any additional questions or need any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

[∨]Julius Genachowski

Enclosure



Federal Communications Commission Washington, D.C. 20554

July 2, 2012

The Honorable John Cornyn United States Senate 517 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Cornyn:

Thank you for your March 29, 2012 letter requesting Commission action a petition filed by Big Bend Telephone Company (Big Bend). Specifically, you expressed support for Big Bend's petition for waiver, filed February 6, 2012, of three high-cost universal service rules. Big Bend seeks a waiver of section 54.302 of the Commission's rules, which establishes a total limit on high-cost universal service support of \$250 per line per month, beginning July 1, 2012. Big Bend also seeks a waiver of the updated and extended limits on recovery of corporate operations expenses applied to High Cost Loop Support (HCLS) and Interstate Common Line Support (ICLS). Finally, Big Bend seeks a waiver of the framework to limit reimbursable capital and operating costs.

The petition is actively under review by the Wireline Competition Bureau. I can assure you that the Bureau is making every effort to conclude its review as quickly and equitably as possible.

A copy of your letter is being entered into the record of the proceeding. Thank you for your interest in this important matter, and please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Trent B. Harkrader

Chief

Telecommunications Access Policy Division

Wireline Competition Bureau

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cc: The Honorable Kay Bailey Hutchison

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