FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

August 27, 2014

The Honorable Frank Pallone, Jr.
U.S. House of Representatives
237 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Pallone:

Thank you for your letter commending the Commission's work on allowing interconnected Voice over Internet Protocol (iVoIP) providers to obtain telephone numbers directly from the number administrators, rather than through a carrier partner, and urging the Commission to drive this rulemaking to an expeditious conclusion. Your views are very important to the process and will be included in the record.

The Commission has taken significant steps to develop a full record in this proceeding. On April 18, 2013, the Commission released a *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM), Order, and Notice of Inquiry (NOI)* seeking comment on the proposal to allow iVoIP providers direct access to telephone numbers. The comment period for the *NPRM* ended on August 18, 2013.

In addition to collecting input from stakeholders and interested parties through public comment, the Commission conducted a six-month trial to determine the technical feasibility of granting direct access to iVoIP providers. The trial involved five entities and began on June 17, 2013. The Wireline Competition Bureau released a Report on the results of the trial to the public on January 31, 2014, and the public was able to comment on the Trial Report until March 3, 2014. The record collected on both the *NPRM/NOI* and the Trial Report is now being carefully reviewed, and the Commission continues to work on this proceeding as expeditiously as possible.

I appreciate your interest in this matter. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

Tom Wheeler