

The Ad Hoc Telecommunications Users Committee

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The following statement may be attributed to Ad Hoc or to Colleen Boothby on behalf of Ad Hoc:

“High capacity broadband markets are simply *not* competitive, as Ad Hoc demonstrated in multiple filings with the FCC over the past several years.

But the former FCC ignored the facts, de-regulated these services, and did nothing as prices and profits rose to unprecedented levels.

In today's tough economy, American businesses cannot afford over-priced broadband services from telecom carriers who were de-regulated prematurely by the former FCC. American companies depend more than ever on these services to control costs and stay competitive, to keep their doors open, to save jobs, and to fuel our economic recovery.

The current FCC must make this problem a priority and put an end to price-gouging by the incumbent telephone companies.”

The Ad Hoc Committee is a 35-year old organization that represents large business customers before the FCC who are heavy users of telecom services. Ad Hoc members (who include 9 of the Fortune 100 and 19 of the Fortune 500) are all end users from a broad range of industry sectors -- financial services, automotive, manufacturing, insurance, aerospace, retail, accounting, package delivery, and information services. The Committee accepts no carrier members and no carrier funding. Because Ad Hoc members are intensive users of information technology and telecom services, they depend upon reasonably priced telecom products. Ad Hoc believes that competitive telecom markets should be de-regulated. But where telecom markets are not competitive, Ad Hoc supports appropriate regulation.