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& President



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March 24, 2011

To the Members of the House Committee on Governmental Affairs:

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am writing to express our company's deep concern about the proposed redistricting of house districts in the Monroe/West Monroe area. As you are likely aware by now, the current proposal has the effect of separating the heart of the Monroe business and residential area into three separate districts, none of which will have Monroe as its primary geographic base.

The current boundary lines of District 16 encompass not only the heart of the Monroe business and financial districts, but also include the University of Louisiana at Monroe as well as the Corporate Headquarters of our company. And while we are very proud that our 1500+ north Louisiana employees reside throughout the parishes surrounding our headquarters building, the political interests of our company are more closely aligned with the Monroe business community. We simply cannot see the sense in separating one of the state's few Fortune 500 companies from the heart of the community that has done so much to support us and that we have worked so well with for so long.

The proposed boundary lines place our headquarters in a district that serves a predominantly rural geography. We know these areas well. Not only was our company founded in Oak Ridge, Louisiana, but today we serve hundreds of rural and small town service areas, both in Louisiana and the other 32 states where we do business. The concerns and needs of these communities are very real and deserving of attention. However, they are also generally very different than the issues and concerns of a large corporation such as ours. These rural and small town areas deserve a representative who is fully committed to their interests. And we believe we deserve a representative who represents a more business-focused constituency.

Our company has enjoyed tremendous growth over the last 15 years. Just next week we plan to close the acquisition of Denver-based Qwest Corporation, after which we will have nearly 50,000 employees and be among the largest 150 companies in the country. As we have pursued this growth we have been proud to call Louisiana home and have been adamant that we keep our headquarters where it has been since our beginning—in Louisiana. Even now we are actively

working to determine how we can move more jobs to our state. We're asking this committee to partner with us in our efforts by keeping us within the same house district that represents the Monroe business community.

We appreciate that you have many competing interests through this process, including federal mandates of a minimum percentage of majority/minority districts. But as we understand the issue there are ready paths for you to achieve your goals without separating us from the district that will give us the most effective voice for our issues. We believe Representatives Jones and Katz are proposing amendments to that effect today. We strongly urge you to adopt this suggestion.

Sincerely,



Glen F. Post, III

cc: Governor Bobby Jindal
Representative Bubba Chaney
Representative Jim Tucker
Representative Ricky Guillot
Representative Frank Hoffman
Representative Rosalind Jones
Representative Sam Jones
Representative Kay Katz
Representative Francis Thompson
Senator Bob Kostelka
Senator Mike Walsworth
Mr. Timmy Teeple