

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1502

September 18, 2009

COMMITTEES:  
AGRICULTURE  
APPROPRIATIONS  
HEALTH, EDUCATION,  
LABOR, AND PENSIONS  
SMALL BUSINESS

*Web  
LATA PV  
JG  
1601*

Julius Genachowski, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> St., S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Panora Communications Cooperative and Prairie Telephone Co., Inc. Application for Waiver of Part 36 Study Area Boundary Freeze CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

Panora Communications Cooperative (PCC) is undertaking a project to upgrade its rural central Iowa exchange service to provide fiber-to-home (FTTH) service to all of its approximately 1,900 customers.

A critical element of PCC's broadband upgrade involves PCC's acquisition of a 2.1 square mile, 34-customer area, located in a private residential development on the north side of Lake Panorama owned by Prairie Telephone Co., Inc. (Prairie). PCC needs this area to construct redundant fiber routes to improve the reliability of its broadband services. It will also allow it to bring high-speed broadband service over FTTH facilities to the 34 customers in the area.

On July 15, 2009, PCC and Prairie applied for a study area waiver in order to transfer the 2.1-square mile area. On August 10, 2009, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) issued a Public Notice regarding this waiver request and set a comment date for September 9, 2009, and a reply date for September 24, 2009.

Receipt of this study area waiver will enable PCC to proceed expeditiously and efficiently with its proposed FTTH upgrade. I would greatly appreciate any assistance you could provide to ensure its timely review so that PCC can have resolution on this matter.

I appreciate your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,



Tom Harkin  
United States Senator

29 SEP 2009 RCUD