



OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

January 19, 2010

The Honorable John Thune
United States Senate
493 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Thune:

Thank you for your well wishes and your letter expressing concern for telecommunications carriers that serve high-cost rural areas. Specifically, you request that the Commission consider rural carriers' interests when examining a range of universal service policy issues.

I agree that rural carriers play an important role in providing quality communications services to consumers in rural America. I can assure you that the Commission will be mindful of the importance of ensuring service to Americans living in rural areas as it examines the many issues currently pending before the Commission, including universal service reform.

I appreciate your interest in this very important matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Julius Genachowski

MANY THANKS
FOR YOUR NOTE.
I LOOK FORWARD
TO DISCUSSING
THESE IMPORTANT
ISSUES WITH YOU.