FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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PANEL TO DISCUSS BROADBAND PLAN’S WORKING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACCESSIBILITY AND AFFORDABILITY FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

FCC Chairman Julius Genachowski and Kareem Dale, Special Assistant to the President for Disability Policy Among Guests

This conference will bring together government officials, consumers with disabilities, industry groups, and academics to discuss how to fulfill Congress’ vision that all Americans, including people with disabilities, share fully in the benefits of broadband. Participants will discuss how the recommendations in the National Broadband Plan now being developed by the FCC will address the accessibility and affordability barriers faced by people with disabilities. The conference will explore the role of innovation; the need for legal, policy, and regulatory changes; and the importance of collaborative problem-solving and open government processes. It is sponsored by Silicon Flatirons and co-sponsored by the American Association of People with Disabilities and the Information Technology and Innovation Foundation. It is hosted by the Adaptive Services Division of the D.C. Public Library.

WHEN: Wednesday, March 10, 2010, 8:45 – 12:30 p.m.
WHERE: Martin Luther King Jr., Library
901 G. St. NW
Washington, DC
WEB: http://www.fcc.gov.live

Sign language interpreters, open captioning, and accessible format documents will be provided on site. Other reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities are available upon request. Include a description of the accommodation you will need. Also include a way we can contact you if we need more information. Last minute requests will be accepted, but may be impossible to fill. Send an e-mail to: fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202-418-0530 (voice), 202-418-0432 (tty).

AGENDA

Light Breakfast & Registration

Welcome
Dale Hatfield; Executive Director, Silicon Flatirons Center; Adjunct Professor, University of Colorado; Former Chief Engineer, Federal Communications Commission (FCC)

Remarks by Opening Speakers

- Julius Genachowski, Chairman, FCC
- Kareem Dale, Special Assistant to the President for Disability Policy
- Others TBD

OBI Working Paper and Implementation

- Joel Gurin; Chief, Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau, FCC
- Elizabeth Lyle; Policy Advisor, Omnibus Broadband Initiative

Networking Break

Stakeholder Roundtable: Reactions and Next Steps

Moderators:

- Rob Atkinson; Information Technology & Innovation Foundation
- Jenifer Simpson; American Association of People with Disabilities

Panelists:

- Eric Bridges; Director of Advocacy and Governmental Affairs, American Council of the Blind
- Vint Cerf; VP & Chief Internet Evangelist, Google
- Rosaline Crawford; Director of the Law and Advocacy Center, National Association of the Deaf
- Susan Fox; Vice President, Government Relations, Disney
- Larry Goldberg; Director of Media Access, WGBH
- Jason D. Goldman; Counsel, Telecommunications & E-Commerce Environment, Technology & Regulatory Affairs Division, U.S. Chamber of Commerce
- Link Hoewing; Assistant VP of Internet and Technology Issues, Verizon
- Leah Katz-Hernandez; Student, Gallaudet University
- Fernando R. Laguarda; VP, Time Warner Cable
- Axel Leblois; Executive Director, G3ict
- Ari Ne’eman; President, Autistic Self Advocacy Network
- Laura Ruby; Director, Accessibility Policy & Standards for Trustworthy Computing, Microsoft
The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 directed the FCC to submit a National Broadband Plan to Congress that addresses broadband deployment, adoption, affordability, and the use of broadband to advance solutions to national priorities. More information about development of the National Broadband Plan can be found at www.broadband.gov