



NEWS

News media Information 202 / 418-0500
Fax-On-Demand 202 / 418-2830
TTY 202/418-2555
Internet: <http://www.fcc.gov>
<ftp.fcc.gov>

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D. C. 20554

This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action. See MCI v. FCC, 515 F.2d 385 (D.C. Cir. 1974).

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 3, 2011

NEWS MEDIA CONTACT:
Dan Rumelt: 202-418-7512
e-mail: Dan.Rumelt@fcc.gov

CHAIRMAN GENACHOWSKI NAMES MEMBERS TO THE FCC-NATIVE NATIONS BROADBAND TASK FORCE

Washington, DC – FCC Chairman Julius Genachowski named 30 members to serve on the new FCC-Native Nations Broadband Task Force. The Task Force is comprised of elected and appointed leaders from across the Native Nations and senior staff and decision-makers from across the Commission. Chairman Genachowski also named Geoffrey Blackwell, Chief of the Commission’s Office of Native Affairs and Policy, as co-chair. Another co-chair will be elected from among the Native Nation representatives on the Task Force by those representatives. The Task Force will assist the Commission in fulfilling its commitment to increase broadband deployment and adoption on Tribal lands.

“The Task Force will help guide the Commission as it works to create a regulatory environment that helps Native Nations develop the infrastructure necessary for providing broadband and other telecommunications services,” Chairman Genachowski said. “The Task Force will be an invaluable resource for the Commission and Native Nations as we work together to improve telecommunications services in Native communities. It will also be instrumental in advancing the FCC’s government-to-government relationships with Native Nations, he said.”

“I am honored that Chairman Genachowski has appointed me to serve as a Task Force co-chair,” Blackwell said. “I take this appointment very seriously. I look forward to working with the Task Force in developing proposals and recommendations that will be useful to the Commission in its decision-making that affects Native communities, and in growing our consultation and coordination programs.”

Chairman Genachowski named the following members to the Task Force representing Native Nations and communities:

- Honorable Susie Allen: Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation
- Honorable Marlin Fryberg: Tulalip Tribes
- Honorable Joe Garcia: Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo
- Honorable Jeffrey Harjo: Seminole Nation of Oklahoma
- Honorable Bradley John: Seneca Nation of Indians
- Honorable Bill Kekahbah: Kaw Nation
- Honorable Joseph Manuel: Gila River Indian Community
- Honorable Jim Shakespeare: Northern Arapaho Tribe
- Mark Bilton-Smith: Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians
- Lewis Christman: Tule River Indian Tribe
- Valerie Fast Horse: Coeur d’Alene Tribe

- Debby Gallenberg: Sokaogon Chippewa Community
- Pearl Mikulski: Kawerak
- Carroll Onsa: Hopi Tribe
- Matthew Rantanen: Pala Band of Mission Indians
- Brian Tagaban: Navajo Nation
- Michael White: Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma
- James Williams: Tanana Chiefs Conference
- Michelle York: Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians

Chairman Genachowski named the following Task Force members from the Federal Communications Commission:

- Geoffrey Blackwell: Office of Native Affairs and Policy
- Irene Flannery: Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau
- David Furth: Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau
- Jane Jackson: Wireless Telecommunications Bureau
- Elise Kohn: Wireline Competition Bureau
- Mark Lloyd: Office of General Counsel
- Kris Monteith: Media Bureau
- Robert Nelson: International Bureau
- Jamison Prime: Office of Engineering and Technology
- Thomas Reed: Office of Communications Business Opportunities
- Suzanne Tetreault: Enforcement Bureau

Task Force responsibilities include assisting in developing and executing a Commission consultation policy, eliciting input to ensure that Native concerns are considered in all Commission proceedings related to broadband, developing additional recommendations for promoting broadband deployment and adoption on Tribal lands, and coordinating with external entities, including other federal departments and agencies.

-FCC-

News and other information about the FCC is available at www.fcc.gov