JULIUS GENACHOWSKI

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

August 15, 2012

The Honorable Joe Barton U.S. House of Representatives 2109 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Barton:

Thank you for your letter supporting adoption of a broadband infrastructure program and urging Commission action to complete reform of the Rural Healthcare support mechanism by the end of 2012. I understand the critical need for broadband access in rural areas like the Brazos Valley. Your letter will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

The circumstances in the Brazos Valley that you have described highlight the importance of the Commission's efforts to reform all of the Universal Service Fund programs and accelerate broadband buildout to unserved areas of the country. The Rural Healthcare program is one element of this comprehensive effort. In an *Order* adopted July 5, 2012, the Commission stated that it expects to complete the rulemaking by the end of the year. To further develop the record in this proceeding and help inform the Commission's findings, the Commission's Wireline Competition Bureau issued a Public Notice on July 19, 2012, seeking additional comment and information from interested parties.

I appreciate your interest in this matter. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

August 15, 2012

The Honorable Michael McCaul U.S. House of Representatives 131 Cannon House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman McCaul:

Thank you for your letter supporting adoption of a broadband infrastructure program and urging Commission action to complete reform of the Rural Healthcare support mechanism by the end of 2012. I understand the critical need for broadband access in rural areas like the Brazos Valley. Your letter will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

The circumstances in the Brazos Valley that you have described highlight the importance of the Commission's efforts to reform all of the Universal Service Fund programs and accelerate broadband buildout to unserved areas of the country. The Rural Healthcare program is one element of this comprehensive effort. In an *Order* adopted July 5, 2012, the Commission stated that it expects to complete the rulemaking by the end of the year. To further develop the record in this proceeding and help inform the Commission's findings, the Commission's Wireline Competition Bureau issued a Public Notice on July 19, 2012, seeking additional comment and information from interested parties.

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Sincerely,

JULIUS GENACHOWSKI

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

August 15, 2012

The Honorable Bill Flores U.S. House of Representatives 1505 Longworth House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Flores:

Thank you for your letter supporting adoption of a broadband infrastructure program and urging Commission action to complete reform of the Rural Healthcare support mechanism by the end of 2012. I understand the critical need for broadband access in rural areas like the Brazos Valley. Your letter will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

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Sincerely,

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION



August 15, 2012

The Honorable John R. Carter U.S. House of Representatives 409 Cannon House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Carter:

Thank you for your letter supporting adoption of a broadband infrastructure program and urging Commission action to complete reform of the Rural Healthcare support mechanism by the end of 2012. I understand the critical need for broadband access in rural areas like the Brazos Valley. Your letter will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

The circumstances in the Brazos Valley that you have described highlight the importance of the Commission's efforts to reform all of the Universal Service Fund programs and accelerate broadband buildout to unserved areas of the country. The Rural Healthcare program is one element of this comprehensive effort. In an *Order* adopted July 5, 2012, the Commission stated that it expects to complete the rulemaking by the end of the year. To further develop the record in this proceeding and help inform the Commission's findings, the Commission's Wireline Competition Bureau issued a Public Notice on July 19, 2012, seeking additional comment and information from interested parties.

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