

CLAIRE McCASKILL  
MISSOURI

COMMITTEES:

ARMED SERVICES

COMMERCE, SCIENCE AND  
TRANSPORTATION

HOMELAND SECURITY  
AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE  
ON CONTRACTING OVERSIGHT  
CHAIRMAN

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 6, 2014

228

IN REPLY PLEASE REFER TO  
OFFICE INDICATED:

555 INDEPENDENCE  
ROOM 1600

CAPE GIRARDEAU, MO 63703  
(573) 651-0964  
FAX: (573) 334-4278

915 EAST ASH STREET  
COLUMBIA, MO 65201  
(573) 442-7130  
FAX: (573) 442-7140

4141 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE  
SUITE 101  
KANSAS CITY, MO 64111  
(816) 421-1639  
FAX: (816) 421-2562

5850 DELMAR BOULEVARD  
SUITE A  
ST. LOUIS, MO 63112  
(314) 367-1364  
FAX: (314) 361-8649

324 PARK CENTRAL WEST  
SUITE 101  
SPRINGFIELD, MO 65806  
(417) 868-8745  
FAX: (417) 831-1349

<http://mccaskill.senate.gov>

Chairman Tom Wheeler  
445 12th St SW  
Washington, DC 20554-0004

Dear Chairman Wheeler,

I am writing to express my support for the Intercounty Electric Cooperative Association's (IECA) expression of interest in the Federal Communications Commission's Connect America Cost Model. Their proposal is entitled the Rural Fiber to the Home (FTTH) Pilot Project.

In conjunction with the Rural Electrification Administration, the IECA has historically brought electricity to un-served rural areas in the United States. As a trusted local utility, the IECA now repeatedly receives requests for reliable and affordable broadband services from its members. In accordance with its mission and its role in the rural community it serves, IECA wishes to step up and provide their members with the services they are requesting.

After extensive research, the IECA believes a FTTH solution is the most reliable way to provide sufficient broadband capacity and speed. IECA is proposing an initial pilot project to establish the scalability of FTTH before future expansions to serve its entire service area. The scale of the initial pilot project would be limited to an initial trial build out of two substations in Texas County serving a census block. This project is designed to provide high-speed broadband for the 2667 members served from the pilot substations and covering roughly 157 square miles. This project would represent a build out of roughly 6% of the cooperative's distribution lines in an area that has a population density that averages 7.56 homes per mile of line.

Thank you in advance for your full and fair consideration of this application. Please keep me apprised of the progress of their application.

Sincerely,



Claire McCaskill  
United States Senator