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MINNESOTA

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United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

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February 16, 2017

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

Dear Chairman Pai:


I write to recommend Ms. Danna MacKenzie for a position on the Broadband Deployment Advisory Committee (BDAC). Ms. MacKenzie's career working to advance rural internet access spans the federal, state, and local level. Her expertise would be a valuable asset for the BDAC.

In her current role as the executive director of the Minnesota Office of Broadband Development, Ms. MacKenzie oversees a state broadband deployment program with investments of \$65 million. In partnership with local leaders and private sector providers, Ms. MacKenzie shapes policies that drive investment in rural communities and encourage upgrades to dated communication systems. This work requires a deep understanding of how federal, state and local funds can be leveraged to best amplify private funding, accelerate deployment of high-speed internet access, and deliver the best broadband service for consumers.

In addition to her work promoting border-to-border internet access in Minnesota, Ms. MacKenzie has been active in efforts to coordinate with other state broadband leaders. In this capacity, she works with federal agencies and national advocacy groups to exchange ideas and promote best practices to bring about ubiquitous broadband access. This national dialogue has allowed Ms. MacKenzie to share the lessons she has learned leading broadband deployment efforts in Minnesota with other state and local leaders as they develop their own broadband deployment efforts.

Ms. MacKenzie is a well-respected advocate for increasing broadband deployment and adoption. Her work in Minnesota and on the national level is a testament to her qualifications, and I strongly recommend her for a position on the BDAC. Thank you for your consideration of her application.

Sincerely,


Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator