



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

May 24, 2019

The Honorable Edward J. Markey
United States Senate
255 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Markey:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Connect America Fund Phase II auction. Closing the digital divide is my top priority. That's why the FCC held our nation's first reverse auction of fixed broadband support, allocating \$1.488 billion to expand high-speed broadband to more than 700,000 unserved rural homes and small businesses over the next 10 years. Moreover, this deployment is costing taxpayers much less than initially projected because the Commission allocated funding through competitive bidding.

Westfield Gas and Electric won more than \$10 million in funding in the auction and promises to bring high-speed broadband to unserved areas. I know the importance of this funding to Western Massachusetts, as I visited Westfield last September and heard for myself what this funding could do. Commission staff are actively reviewing Westfield Gas and Electric's long-form application, and I am hopeful they will resolve any pending issues in the near term.

Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ajit V. Pai". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "A".

Ajit V. Pai



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THE CHAIRMAN

May 24, 2019

The Honorable Elizabeth Warren
United States Senate
317 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Warren:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Connect America Fund Phase II auction. Closing the digital divide is my top priority. That's why the FCC held our nation's first reverse auction of fixed broadband support, allocating \$1.488 billion to expand high-speed broadband to more than 700,000 unserved rural homes and small businesses over the next 10 years. Moreover, this deployment is costing taxpayers much less than initially projected because the Commission allocated funding through competitive bidding.

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May 24, 2019

The Honorable Jim McGovern
U.S. House of Representatives
408 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman McGovern:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Connect America Fund Phase II auction. Closing the digital divide is my top priority. That's why the FCC held our nation's first reverse auction of fixed broadband support, allocating \$1.488 billion to expand high-speed broadband to more than 700,000 unserved rural homes and small businesses over the next 10 years. Moreover, this deployment is costing taxpayers much less than initially projected because the Commission allocated funding through competitive bidding.

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May 24, 2019

The Honorable Richard E. Neal
U.S. House of Representatives
2309 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Neal:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Connect America Fund Phase II auction. Closing the digital divide is my top priority. That's why the FCC held our nation's first reverse auction of fixed broadband support, allocating \$1.488 billion to expand high-speed broadband to more than 700,000 unserved rural homes and small businesses over the next 10 years. Moreover, this deployment is costing taxpayers much less than initially projected because the Commission allocated funding through competitive bidding.

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