

September 3, 2020

The Honorable Jim Langevin U.S. House of Representatives 2077 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Langevin:

Thank you for your letter of support regarding the Commission's work to bring broadband to Tribal areas through the 2.5 GHz Rural Tribal Priority Window. Closing the digital divide is my top priority as Chairman. I have seen for myself what affordable high-speed Internet access can do for a community—for its families, its schools, its hospitals, its farms, its businesses—as well as the impact of its absence. I also fully recognize the importance of broadband in Tribal communities, particularly in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The 2.5 GHz Rural Tribal Priority Window, which opened February 3, presents a unique opportunity for eligible Tribal entities to obtain licenses for prime mid-band spectrum that can help Tribes address their connectivity needs. Although the application window was originally scheduled to close on August 3, in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, it was extended an additional 30 days until 6:00 PM EDT on September 2, 2020. Commission staff worked extremely hard to enable eligible Tribal entities to apply and avail themselves of the benefits of this spectrum. Thanks in part to those efforts, the FCC received more than 400 applications from Tribal entities throughout the country.

You will be pleased to learn that among them was the Narragansett Indian Tribe. The Tribe has submitted one 2.5 GHz Rural Tribal Priority Window application for its reservation land and another (accompanied by a request for waiver) that requests spectrum over the area surrounding its reservation land.

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

Ajt V. Pai



September 3, 2020

The Honorable David Cicilline U.S. House of Representatives 2244 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Cicilline:

Thank you for your letter of support regarding the Commission's work to bring broadband to Tribal areas through the 2.5 GHz Rural Tribal Priority Window. Closing the digital divide is my top priority as Chairman. I have seen for myself what affordable high-speed Internet access can do for a community—for its families, its schools, its hospitals, its farms, its businesses—as well as the impact of its absence. I also fully recognize the importance of broadband in Tribal communities, particularly in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

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Sincerely,



September 3, 2020

The Honorable Sheldon Whitehouse United States Senate 530 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Whitehouse:

Thank you for your letter of support regarding the Commission's work to bring broadband to Tribal areas through the 2.5 GHz Rural Tribal Priority Window. Closing the digital divide is my top priority as Chairman. I have seen for myself what affordable high-speed Internet access can do for a community—for its families, its schools, its hospitals, its farms, its businesses—as well as the impact of its absence. I also fully recognize the importance of broadband in Tribal communities, particularly in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

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Ajit V. Pai



September 3, 2020

The Honorable Jack Reed United States Senate 728 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Reed:

Thank you for your letter of support regarding the Commission's work to bring broadband to Tribal areas through the 2.5 GHz Rural Tribal Priority Window. Closing the digital divide is my top priority as Chairman. I have seen for myself what affordable high-speed Internet access can do for a community—for its families, its schools, its hospitals, its farms, its businesses—as well as the impact of its absence. I also fully recognize the importance of broadband in Tribal communities, particularly in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

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