

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION WASHINGTON

January 11, 2021

The Honorable Frank Pallone, Jr. Chairman Committee on Energy and Commerce U.S. House of Representatives 2125 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Pallone:

Thank you for your letter regarding the Commission's process to implement the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act of 2019. I would like to thank you for your efforts in the negotiations that led to Congress appropriating \$1.9 billion for the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Reimbursement Program.

As you note, one of the requirements of the Secure Networks Act is to develop and release a list of eligible replacement equipment, software, and services. On December 10, 2020, the Commission approved a Second Report and Order that adopted rules to implement the Secure Networks Act. Following adoption of the Second Report and Order, the Commission immediately began developing the list. Through a third-party contractor, it is conducting market research and interviewing vendors and carriers to compile as thorough a list as quickly as possible.

Additionally, the Commission in the Second Report and Order stated that carriers can act now to remove and replace insecure equipment for their networks without jeopardizing their eligibility for reimbursement under the reimbursement program. I understand many have already begun work accordingly.

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

Ajle V. Pai