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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**

September 14, 2017

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMODITY EXCHANGES,  
ENERGY, AND CREDIT

SUBCOMMITTEE ON NUTRITION

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION  
AND INFRASTRUCTURE  
VICE CHAIR, SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
RAILROADS, PIPELINES, AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,  
PUBLIC BUILDINGS, AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HIGHWAYS AND TRANSIT

The Honorable Ajit Pai  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Received & Inspected

SEP 19 2017

FCC Mail Room

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Dear Chairman Pai:

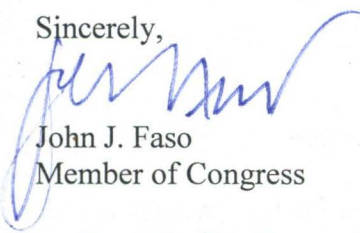
I am writing to both request an update, and express my support for, the Eger Communications Blue Hill replacement tower located in Columbia County, NY. This tower is an incredibly important piece of the Columbia County public safety radio network.

The tower replacement site is a 129-acre parcel that the Eger family has operated as a fruit farm since 1931. Communications towers were first constructed at the site in the 1960s, beginning with three (3) towers that were located approximately 100 feet away from the existing 190-foot tower. In 1992 Eger removed those three (3) towers as part of a project to construct the 190-foot twin-lattice tower that currently exists at the site. This site is a critical part of Columbia County's public safety radio network, and will play an integral role in planned enhancements and expansion of the emergency communications network.

While I understand and appreciate the concerns that have been raised over the tower's proximity to the Olana State Historic Site, it is vitally important to provide Columbia County emergency service personnel with reliable communications to safely do their jobs. Our first responders put their lives on the line every day to protect the residents of the County; we should make it our number-one priority to ensure that they are able to do this as safely as possible.

I fully support this replacement tower project, and urge the Federal Communications Commission to expeditiously move on this project. By replacing this outdated tower with a modern, high-functioning equivalent in the same location, Columbia County will be able to improve safety for emergency service personnel and the residents of the County. Thank you for your attention to this matter, I look forward to your update and working with you in the future.

Sincerely,

  
John J. Faso  
Member of Congress

cc: Dana Shaffer, Deputy Bureau Chief, FCC Wireless Telecommunications Bureau

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

December 20, 2017

The Honorable John J. Faso  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1616 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Faso:

Thank you for your correspondence dated September 14, 2017. In your letter, you request an update on the proceeding involving the Eger Communications Blue Hill replacement tower in Columbia County, NY. You also express support for the proposed replacement tower and state that the tower will play an integral role in facilitating Columbia County's public safety radio network and in providing a reliable emergency communications network for emergency service personnel.

The above-referenced matter is a restricted proceeding under the Commission's *ex parte* rules, and it will remain restricted until it is no longer subject to administrative or judicial review. The Commission's *ex parte* rules require that written communications to Commission decision-making personnel relating to the merits of restricted proceedings be served on all the parties to the proceeding. See 47 C. F. R. §§ 1.1200 – 1.1216. Accordingly, we are placing your letter and this response in the record and serving them on the parties to the proceeding. This matter is currently under review, and we will be glad to provide you with a copy of our findings once the proceeding has concluded.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Ajit V. Pai", is written over the typed name.

Ajit V. Pai