



VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary

Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W., Room TW-B204 Washington, DC 20554

**Re: Reply to Comments by Buckeye Hills Regional Council Regarding the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund WC
Docket Nos. 19-126 and 10-90**

Madam Secretary:

In reply to comments submitted by the Buckeye Hills Regional Council on September 19, 2019, we certainly appreciate your concern and hope you will consider the fiber to premise solution suggested by the Buckeye Hills Regional Council. We find the Council's report to be an accurate description of our geographic area. Our District is located in Hocking County, Ohio, about one-hour drive south of Columbus and covers approximately 321 square miles of Appalachia. While we do enjoy the benefit of high speed broadband at our schools, we have reports of households less than a half mile from school that are unable to access high speed broadband. Residents have been told "they will have to wait for someone to move away" before they can even purchase reliable broadband as noted in the Buckeye Hills report. While the students and parents in our district are resourceful and no stranger to innovation, providing reliable, high speed broadband would give them access to online resources that have become commonplace in urban and suburban environments (i.e. educational resources, FAFSA applications, banking, job applications, and online healthcare).

An investment in broadband infrastructure is an investment in the future of Appalachia. It is a resource that is becoming unavoidable to tap into and will give our students the background necessary to succeed in a 21st Century Global Economy. In addition to endorsing the brief submitted by the Buckeye Hills Regional Council, we would like to extend an invitation to the Logan-Hocking School District if you or members of your office would need any additional information.

Sincerely,

Joshua T. Straus

I.T. Coordinator Logan-Hocking School District