

October 24, 2019

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

Re: In the Matter of: Nomination for Universal Service Administrative Company Board of Directors, CC Docket Nos. 97-21 and 96-45

Dear Chairman Pai:

The Columbia County Library supports the nomination of Amber Gregory to the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) Board of Directors as the representative for libraries. Ms. Gregory holds the position of Manager of E-Rate Services at the Arkansas State Library, a post she has held since 2010. Ms. Gregory directly supports the E-rate program via training workshops, direct filing assistance, and help with invoicing and post-commitment requests with the goal of increasing library broadband access.

Ms. Gregory has been instrumental in Columbia County Library's successful use of the E-rate program. She was able to guide the library through the process of acquiring high-speed fiber to the building and her skills using the EPC portal made the implementation of new wireless access points much easier. Each year part of the application process changes and her knowledge of these variations allow us to be successful each year with requests. Because of her hands-on involvement helping public libraries, she knows firsthand the impact that decisions by the USAC board can have on rural areas.

Currently, Ms. Gregory chairs the American Library Association's E-Rate Task Force, on which she has served since 2014. Active participation on the E-Rate Task Force allows Ms. Gregory to share local library E-rate experiences with other state E-rate coordinators and key program partners to improve applicant participation and outcomes.

Ms. Gregory's direct involvement with the E-Rate program will be a strength she brings to the USAC Board. The relationships she has built with local libraries will be an asset to USAC Board discussions and decisions. The Columbia County Library is pleased to endorse Amber Gregory for the position of library representative on the Universal Service Administrative Company Board of Directors.

Sincerely,

Rhonda Rolen