

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

487

July 18, 2019

The Honorable Ajit V. Pai
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, Southwest
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Pai:

We write to you in support of the appointment of Dr. Michael Adelaine to serve on the Federal Communications Commission's Task Force for Reviewing Connectivity and Technology Needs of Precision Agriculture in the United States (Precision Ag Connectivity Task Force).

As you know, many farmers and ranchers in rural America face great difficulty in accessing reliable broadband Internet services. The availability of broadband Internet access services on agricultural lands is essential for advancements in precision agriculture. Studies estimate that precision agriculture technologies can reduce agricultural operation costs by up to \$25 per acre and increase farm yields by up to 70 percent by 2050. Because of these benefits, we applaud you for quickly establishing the Precision Ag Connectivity Task Force to address current gaps in broadband coverage on agricultural lands as directed by the 2018 Farm Bill.

Dr. Adelaine's experience as Vice President for Technology and Safety at South Dakota State University (SDSU) uniquely qualifies him to serve on the Precision Ag Connectivity Task Force. He combines extensive experience in addressing agricultural needs in rural America with a deep understanding of the technological challenges facing farmers and ranchers. Furthermore, SDSU is the first land grant university to offer a Bachelor of Science degree in Precision Agriculture and is leading the nation in precision agricultural training and research.

Thank you for your consideration of Dr. Michael Adelaine to serve on the Precision Ag Connectivity Task Force. We are confident he will be a valuable voice on the task force and for rural America, where broadband needs are often the greatest.

Sincerely,

		
JOHN THUNE United States Senator	M. MICHAEL ROUNDS United States Senator	DUSTY JOHNSON Member of Congress



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

July 19, 2019

The Honorable Dusty Johnson
U.S. House of Representatives
1508 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Johnson:

Thank you for your letter supporting the appointment of Dr. Michael Adelaine, Vice President for Technology and Safety of South Dakota State University, to serve on the Commission's Task Force for Reviewing Connectivity and Technology Needs of Precision Agriculture in the United States. We will certainly consider your recommendation and Dr. Adelaine's impressive resume as the Commission reviews the nominations for the Task Force and its working groups.

I appreciate you taking the time to communicate your recommendation to me. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Ajit V. Pai". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ajit" being the most prominent part.

Ajit V. Pai



OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

July 19, 2019

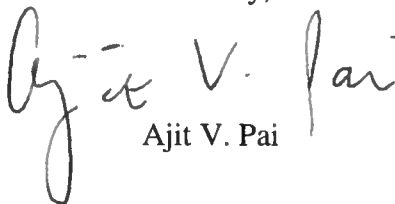
The Honorable John Thune
United States Senate
511 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Thune:

Thank you for your letter supporting the appointment of Dr. Michael Adelaine, Vice President for Technology and Safety of South Dakota State University, to serve on the Commission's Task Force for Reviewing Connectivity and Technology Needs of Precision Agriculture in the United States. We will certainly consider your recommendation and Dr. Adelaine's impressive resume as the Commission reviews the nominations for the Task Force and its working groups.

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Sincerely,

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Ajit V. Pai



OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

July 19, 2019

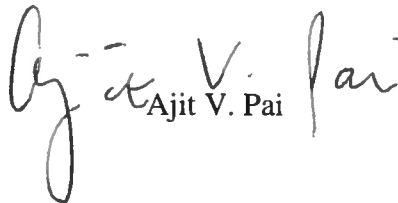
The Honorable Mike Rounds
United States Senate
502 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Rounds:

Thank you for your letter supporting the appointment of Dr. Michael Adelaine, Vice President for Technology and Safety of South Dakota State University, to serve on the Commission's Task Force for Reviewing Connectivity and Technology Needs of Precision Agriculture in the United States. We will certainly consider your recommendation and Dr. Adelaine's impressive resume as the Commission reviews the nominations for the Task Force and its working groups.

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Ajit V. Pai