

Commissioner Brendan Carr
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: WT Docket No. 17-79 - Accelerating Wireless Broadband Deployment by Removing Barriers to Infrastructure Investment

Dear Commissioner Carr,

As a conservative, I support smart government policies that boost economic development and growth. I applaud the agency's actions to speed the deployment of 5G wireless service by streamlining and modernizing the federal regulations that govern wireless infrastructure permitting. This is because I believe 5G offers the U.S. a tremendous opportunity to enhance our lifestyles, provide jobs, and compete in international markets, and I urge you to continue seeking regulatory improvements that will bring 5G to states and towns of all sizes across the nation.

My home, Minnehaha County, South Dakota, is the most populous county in the state. We have over 180,000 residents, many of whom reside in the city of Sioux Falls. But there are many smaller communities here too. Those communities – just like the more populous ones – stand to benefit greatly from 5G. In fact, across South Dakota, farming communities could benefit just as much, if not more, from the advantages 5G will offer, such as telemedicine, telecommuting, and smart agriculture technologies.

South Dakota is already making great strides in broadband coverage, with 80 percent of the state now covered by independent telecommunications companies that, in many areas, provide fiber network access to rural communities. Our leaders realize the need to expand wireless coverage, and I am pleased that our senior U.S. Senator John Thune is spearheading federal legislation to advance 5G deployment.

The FCC can also help bring 5G throughout North Dakota by ensuring there are consistent rules in place that encourage investment and by eliminating obstacles to infrastructure construction. These rules wouldn't apply just in my state, but across the country so that we're better positioned as a whole to thrive in a 5G world.

It's important to get the policy right because the competition to be first to 5G is fierce – not only within the U.S. but also globally where we're up against South Korea, Japan, and China. With continued leadership from the FCC, we can and should win.

Thank you for giving 5G deployment the attention it deserves.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Karon Gubbrud". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Karon" and last name "Gubbrud" clearly legible.

Karon Gubbrud