

JOE MANCHIN III
WEST VIRGINIA

WCB-BC

808

19-195
COMMITTEES

APPROPRIATIONS

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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4804
October 24, 2019

EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

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

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Federal Communications Commission
Federal Office of Telecommunications Policy
Office of the Secretary

Dear Chairman Pai,

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While I am encouraged to hear that your agency is planning to implement a formal public feedback mechanism to improve broadband coverage maps, the people of West Virginia need help now. Until a more viable process is established, I will be providing you with real coverage data from people on the ground in West Virginia and a brief description of the challenges they face personally, professionally, and economically as a result of their unreliable broadband service.

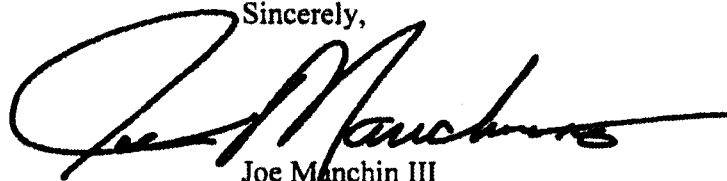
I have received correspondence from a constituent in Richwood, West Virginia which sits on the banks of the Cherry River and is within driving distance to Summersville Lake. Summersville Lake, which serves as a popular destination for West Virginians and tourists alike, is the largest lake in West Virginia with over 60 miles of shoreline. Due to its proximity to this destination, Richwood attracts a fair number of visitors each year. While some of these visitors may appreciate the chance to unplug, that does not necessarily mean they want to be completely disconnected. For West Virginia to continue to develop its tourism industry in places like Richwood, broadband access is critical.

Using the FCC Speed Testing Application on an Apple iPhone to test their fixed broadband service from Shentel, my office received the following speed results in Richwood:

- 44.3mbps down / 8.02mbps up

These numbers are well below your agency's definition of broadband and the advertised speed they were given by their provider. I hope you will use this data to validate the information West Virginia's broadband providers have submitted to the FCC and ensure that they are eligible for any and all relevant broadband grants and other resources. Places like Richwood depend on the promise of universal service, and it is our job to make good on that promise.

Sincerely,



Joe Manchin III
United States Senator

(Enclosure)

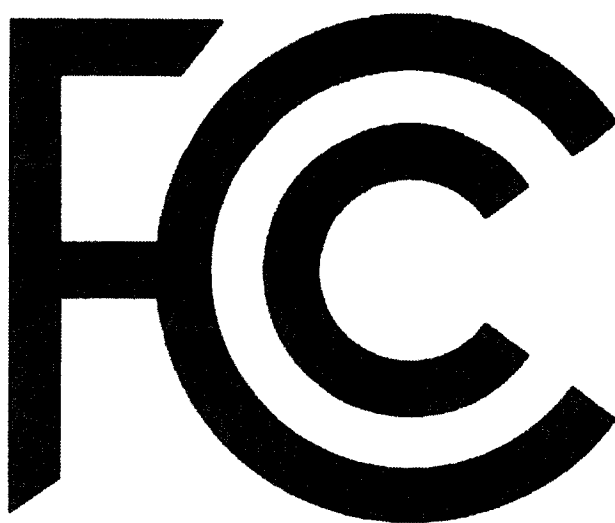
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Coordinates: (38.232700, -80.527570)

Address:

39 Cherry Street
Richwood, WV 26261

Test ID: 5001772433



Network tested
Vibes



Upload

8.02 Mbps



Download

44.3 Mbps



Latency

69.1 ms



Jitter

18.4 ms



Packet loss

3.5 %