

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

DELEGATION OFFICE
STATE OF NEW MEXICO
HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510
(202) 631-2322

Received & Inspected

NOV 20 2014

FCC/249

November 20, 2014

Chairman Tom Wheeler
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Mr. Chairman:

We are writing in support of the application submitted by the The High Plains Regional Education Cooperative (HPREC) and TeraStream Broadband, Incorporated (TBI) for a Federal Communications Commission Rural Broadband Experiments project. The project will consist of deploying the TBI unique White Space Technology and providing broadband connectivity in the Farmington, New Mexico area.

The HPREC/TBI Project will use TV White Spaces for the delivery of broadband and telephone services to the end user, and feature fiber-like speeds using RF Technology to provide rural schools and libraries fiber-like connectivity much cheaper than using traditional fiber deployment. The project will demonstrate that the capability exists to provide more connectivity to schools and libraries within the limited E-rate budget. In addition, because the delivery technology is RF, students can enjoy broadband access in their homes, accelerating digital learning in rural populations.

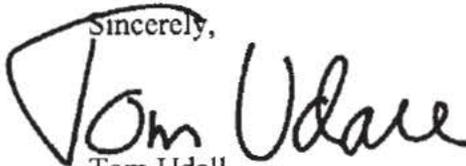
The HPREC/TBI Rural Broadband Experiments project will assist the FCC in meeting its objectives of:

- Gathering data to determine if smaller carriers can meet the needs of providing broadband for less cost in price cap carrier markets by allowing smaller operators to serve in those areas;
- Determining how tailored economic incentives can advance the deployment of next generation networks in rural, high-cost areas, including Tribal lands;
- Providing critical information regarding which and what types of parties are willing to build networks that will deliver services that exceed FCC current performance standards for an amount of money equal to or less than the support amounts calculated by the adopted Phase II Connect America Cost Model; and
- Exploring how to structure the Phase II competitive bidding process in price cap areas as well as gathering valuable information about interest in deploying next generation networks in high-cost areas.

HPREC, as an agency of the state government of New Mexico, will be the overall program administrator for this project. This will be a first step in developing a State of New Mexico/FCC partnership for future projects where the state will become a key partner.

We fully support the HPREC/TBI application, and we request that you give it your thorough consideration within your agency's guidelines.

Sincerely,



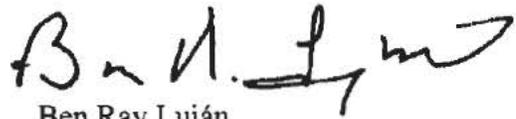
Tom Udall
United States Senator



Martin Heinrich
United States Senator



Stevan Pearce
United States Representative



Ben Ray Luján
United States Representative



Michelle Lujan Grisham
United States Representative



OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

January 29, 2015

The Honorable Michelle Lujan Grisham
U.S. House of Representatives
214 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congresswoman Grisham:

Thank you for your letter supporting the rural broadband experiments application submitted by The High Plains Regional Education Cooperative and TeraStream Broadband (TeraStream). Your views are very important and will be included in the record of the proceeding.

In January of last year, the Commission initiated an experiment to inform our policies to build the next generation networks in rural America and invited proposals on whether there is interest in constructing high-bandwidth networks in high-cost areas. This experiment has allowed us to explore how to structure the CAF Phase II competitive bidding process in price-cap areas and gather valuable information about deploying next-generation networks in high-cost areas. We issued an invitation, and the response was astounding. We received nearly 1,000 expressions of interest from all parts of the country and from a wide range of entities, including rural telephone companies, rural electric co-ops, cable and wireless service providers, schools and libraries, research and education networks, and communities.

In July 2014, we adopted a \$100 million budget for the rural broadband experiments and established an objective methodology for selecting projects among formal applications, which were due between October 23 and November 7, 2014. In total, 181 applicants proposed to serve over 76,000 census blocks in all 50 states and Puerto Rico.

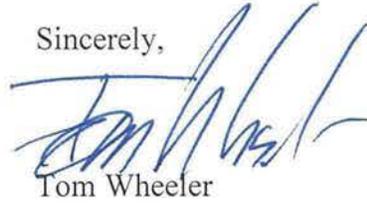
On December 5, 2014, we announced the provisionally selected bidders. The provisionally selected bidders bid on support to cover 26,867 census blocks in 25 states and Puerto Rico. TeraStream's submission was one of the provisionally selected bidders under category one, or entities seeking support to build networks capable of delivering 100 Mbps downstream and 25 Mbps upstream. Its provisionally selected bid is comprised of 149 census blocks in New Mexico.

I look forward to working with you as we continue the work of reforming and modernizing the USF high-cost program – as well as other components of the Fund – to ensure that all Americans have access to robust voice and broadband services.

Page 2—The Honorable Michelle Lujan Grisham

I appreciate your interest in this matter. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

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Tom Wheeler



OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

January 29, 2015

The Honorable Martin Heinrich
United States Senate
702 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Heinrich:

Thank you for your letter supporting the rural broadband experiments application submitted by The High Plains Regional Education Cooperative and Terastream Broadband (Terastream). Your views are very important and will be included in the record of the proceeding.

In January of last year, the Commission initiated an experiment to inform our policies to build the next generation networks in rural America and invited proposals on whether there is interest in constructing high-bandwidth networks in high-cost areas. This experiment has allowed us to explore how to structure the CAF Phase II competitive bidding process in price-cap areas and gather valuable information about deploying next-generation networks in high-cost areas. We issued an invitation, and the response was astounding. We received nearly 1,000 expressions of interest from all parts of the country and from a wide range of entities, including rural telephone companies, rural electric co-ops, cable and wireless service providers, schools and libraries, research and education networks, and communities.

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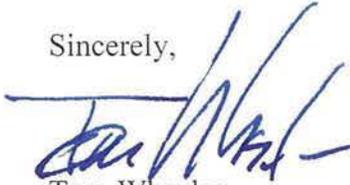
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Tom Wheeler



OFFICE OF
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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

January 29, 2015

The Honorable Ben Ray Luján
U.S. House of Representatives
2446 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Luján:

Thank you for your letter supporting the rural broadband experiments application submitted by The High Plains Regional Education Cooperative and Terastream Broadband (Terastream). Your views are very important and will be included in the record of the proceeding.

In January of last year, the Commission initiated an experiment to inform our policies to build the next generation networks in rural America and invited proposals on whether there is interest in constructing high-bandwidth networks in high-cost areas. This experiment has allowed us to explore how to structure the CAF Phase II competitive bidding process in price-cap areas and gather valuable information about deploying next-generation networks in high-cost areas. We issued an invitation, and the response was astounding. We received nearly 1,000 expressions of interest from all parts of the country and from a wide range of entities, including rural telephone companies, rural electric co-ops, cable and wireless service providers, schools and libraries, research and education networks, and communities.

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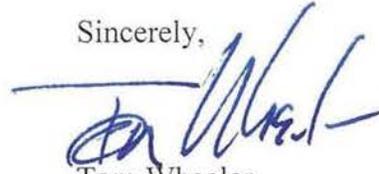
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OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

January 29, 2015

The Honorable Steve Pearce
U.S. House of Representatives
2432 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Pearce:

Thank you for your letter supporting the rural broadband experiments application submitted by The High Plains Regional Education Cooperative and Terastream Broadband (Terastream). Your views are very important and will be included in the record of the proceeding.

In January of last year, the Commission initiated an experiment to inform our policies to build the next generation networks in rural America and invited proposals on whether there is interest in constructing high-bandwidth networks in high-cost areas. This experiment has allowed us to explore how to structure the CAF Phase II competitive bidding process in price-cap areas and gather valuable information about deploying next-generation networks in high-cost areas. We issued an invitation, and the response was astounding. We received nearly 1,000 expressions of interest from all parts of the country and from a wide range of entities, including rural telephone companies, rural electric co-ops, cable and wireless service providers, schools and libraries, research and education networks, and communities.

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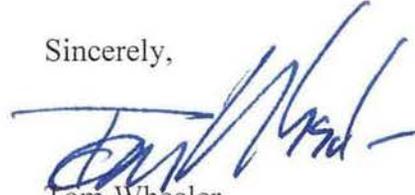
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Tom Wheeler



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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

January 29, 2015

The Honorable Tom Udall
United States Senate
110 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Udall:

Thank you for your letter supporting the rural broadband experiments application submitted by The High Plains Regional Education Cooperative and Terastream Broadband (Terastream). Your views are very important and will be included in the record of the proceeding.

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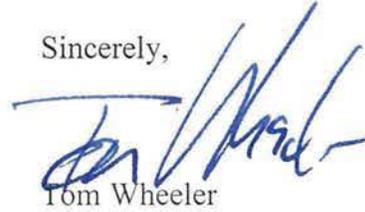
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Tom Wheeler