

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

Please read the attached letter from the Chief of the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma. The tribe is federally recognized with a corporate charter established October 3, 1950.

Chief Wickliffe wishes to express his concern that RBSC's Rural Broadband Experiment award may be withdrawn. The opportunities that have become evident in connection with the joint undertaking of the RBSC RBE project appear to be slipping away. Chief Wickliffe's people and 200,000 rural Americans residing in 5 Northeastern counties of Oklahoma are standing at the crossroads. For many decades the Chief's people have been patiently waiting for the fulfillment of promises made. Now the educational, health and other benefits, including economic development opportunity of a national "Broadband Revolution" are within reach.

The Chief would appreciate the full Commission's review of such an important and potentially life-changing decision. An Application for Review will likely be filed with the Commission tomorrow. Thank you for your kind attention to this matter.

Al Pedersen