



**Federal Communications Commission**

Common Carrier Bureau  
Washington, D.C. 20554

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JAN 15 1999

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JAN 22 1999

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Mr. Norman Earhart  
184 Cedar Parkway  
Oroville, CA 95966-6205

Dear Mr. Earhart:

Thank you for your correspondence of June 2, 1998 to the White House. President Clinton has asked me to respond to your concerns regarding inadequate facilities for Internet access in rural areas. You are concerned with the quality of your internet service.

The Federal Communications Commission is currently working on the implementation of Section 706 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, and every effort is being made to ensure that our policies will maximize benefits for rural Internet users. In the Inquiry Concerning the Deployment of Advanced Telecommunications Capability to All Americans in a Reasonable and Timely Fashion, and Possible Steps to Accelerate Such Deployment Pursuant to Section 706 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, CC Docket No. 98-146, released on August 7, 1998, the Commission specifically requests public comment on the need for advance telecommunications capability in rural areas. We will include your letter to President Clinton as part of the record of that proceeding.

Your correspondence also expresses a concern that Sprint's charges are too high for Internet access in a community in which Sprint has a fiber optic cable. Please be advised that the Commission does not regulate the rates for Internet access by Internet service providers. The charges for Internet access may vary among the Internet service providers that currently provide access to your community. You may decide to compare these charges with different providers to determine the most favorable rate.

You report that you have problems with internet access disconnections, which you have been told is attributable to PacBell. You may wish to contact the California Public Utility Commission at 800-649-7570 to complain of this service quality problem.

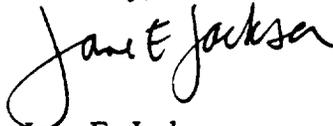
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Mr. Norman Earhart

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Thank you again for your interest in this issue and please be assured that your concerns will be taken into consideration. Should you have any further questions, please feel free to contact the Common Carrier Bureau's Competitive Pricing Division at (202) 418-1520.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jane E. Jackson". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Jane E. Jackson

Chief

Competitive Pricing Division

Common Carrier Bureau

98-05480jlm

16.11.98  
FCC  
40167  
From nobody@www2.whitehouse.gov Tue Jun 2 23:00:45 1998  
Date: Tue, 02 Jun 1998 22:59:42 -0400  
From: Norman Earhart <Norman@Earhart.com>  
Subject: Inbound-White\_House\_WWW\_MAIL => PRESIDENT  
Apparently-to: president@WhiteHouse.GOV  
To: president@WhiteHouse.GOV  
Errors-to: The Postmaster <postmaster@www2.whitehouse.gov>  
Reply-to: Norman Earhart <Norman@Earhart.com>  
Message-id: <199806030259.WAA02528@www2.whitehouse.gov>

Keywords: WWW-Correspondence; ; Other; No Answer; Private Citizen;  
Comments: Forwarded from White House WWW  
Comments: This message scanned by SCAN version 0.1 jms/960226

[Connection Information]

CLIENT: d72.venus.sunset.net[205.138.253.72]  
BROWSER: Mozilla/4.05 [en] (Win95; I)  
URL: http://www2.whitehouse.gov/WH/Mail/html/Mail\_President.html

[Sender Information]

PERSONAL-NAME: Norman Earhart  
EMAIL-ADDRESS: Norman@Earhart.com  
ORGANIZATION:  
RELATIONSHIP:  
STREET-ADDRESS: 184 Cedar Parkway  
CITY: Oroville  
STATE-PROVINCE: CA  
ZIP-CODE: 95966-6205  
COUNTRY: USA

[Message Information]

PURPOSE: Other  
TOPIC: No Answer  
AFFILIATION: Private Citizen  
SUBJECT: World Wide Wait

[Message]

We live in a small community with few major businesses. We do not have a college. Because of this we receive very poor internet service. It is extremely difficult to reach the business office of our phone company (Pacific Bell). My ISP (Sunset Net) tells that the problems that I have (dropped connections) is the phone companies fault. Everyone I talk says someone else is causing the problem. I tell them you are either a part of the problem or a part of the answer. The federal government needs to require the national ISP to offer

local access to the rural areas of this country. I check on using Sprint as my ISP. They told me that I would have to use an 800 number and pay an exter charge for the privilage. I reminded them that their fiber optic cable runs through this Oroville, CA. and that they could provide Oroville with internet service at the station that they have here.