

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL **RECEIVED**

DEC 07 1999

96-45

Gentlemen:

If you are wondering why the general public sometimes chooses not to or cannot respond to your 'request to comment' areas, just read the below response... This is a ridiculous request when dealing with non-governmental individuals, I simply wanted to send a e mail submission regarding a issue that said it was seeking responses, not get caught in the middle of governmental mis-mash..... I will try to respond, but do not have the time necessary to determine what your agency needs to qualify as a response.... You need to make this system more user friendlier so the ordinary public, who you are suppose to serve can participate...

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Electronic Comment Filing System wrote: To obtain a list of tags and instructions for sending E-Mail Submissions, please send an e-mail to:

ecfs@fcc.gov If in the original spot, you provide a e mail area and know directions, then one has to expect e mails, not the endless list of questions that you are now asking for... with a line in the message contents containing the following words:

get form your-email-address ?????
Replace 'your-email-address' with your own e-mail address ?????

ECFS Received your Submission/Request at 12/03/99 00:05:51 Eastern Time

Required tagged information '<PROCEEDING>' is missing.
Required tagged information '<NAME>' is missing. My name is at the end of the pc. David R. Dutro 938 Rear N. 6th Av. Tucson, Az. 85705 Home Tel. 1-520-291-2355 Dig pagr 1-520-291-2355 Required tagged information '<TEXT>' is missing.
Invalid state '<STATE>' ". Again per the text, I mentioned Az. as the state I'am working in and where I live....
Invalid document type '<DOCUMENT-TYPE>' ". ?????

If you were attempting to file a comment, ECFS was unable to process But why, this is just an example of why the public can't or won't participate in legitimate public dialog, its so complicated, and I'am one of the better members of society....

your comment at 12/03/99 00:05:52 Eastern Time due to the 5 data anomalies listed above.

----- Begin Included Message -----

>From drd1@theriver.com Fri Dec 3 00:05:50 1999
Return-Path: <drd1@theriver.com>
Received: from gatekeeper2.fcc.gov by fccsun05w (SMI-8.6/SMI-SVR4)
id AAA20968; Fri, 3 Dec 1999 00:05:50 -0500
Received: by gatekeeper2.fcc.gov; id AAA24687; Fri, 3 Dec 1999 00:04:52 -0500 (EST)
Received: from nodnsquery(205.216.137.2) by gatekeeper2.fcc.gov via smap (V5.5)
id xma024683; Fri, 3 Dec 99 00:03:57 -0500
Received: from theriver.com (a24.pm3-46.theriver.com [208.164.102.136])
by pantano.theriver.com (Postfix) with ESMTP id 5F85F25DCC
for <ecfs@fcc.gov>; Thu, 2 Dec 1999 22:03:32 -0700 (MST)
Message-ID: <3847503D.DC3602BD@theriver.com>

2 of Copies rec'd
ABCDEF

2

Date: Thu, 02 Dec 1999 22:08:14 -0700
From: David Dutro <drd1@theriver.com>
X-Mailer: Mozilla 4.05 [en] (Win95; I)
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: ecfs@fcc.gov
Subject: Response to Docket No. 96-45
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
content-length: 6615

original message....My

Re: Docket No. 96-45 Indian Initiatives
Telecommunications

I have read your first document on the proposed NPRM, that was presented on your WEB site, as you said, you are seeking responses to develop a policy which will assist you in helping the tribes and their telecommunication needs.

I am responding to this as an outside interested party. I am working with one of the Az. tribes, in another capacity, but possess the capability to understand where their telecommunications needs are. I also work with a group in California that has worked with another Indian nation quite extensively, in implementing telecommunications. I also understand the Internet and the various technologies that are presently being offered and those that are anticipated to be coming down the 'proverbial' pike to the public. It is with this in mind, that I make some of the following observations to address the initiatives.

The current state of the tribal nations communications is a limiting factor in their development, both as a member of our society and a group who the Federal Govt. has a fiduciary responsibility to see that they advance both as a group and an economic group who can take care of more their own functions..

I feel that the base communications need to be provided to the tribes, taking into consideration whether they are metropolitan or rural groups. Whether that means wireless, landline, satellite solutions, or some combinations is completely up to the economies of the situation for the particular tribe. The Federal govt. needs to be the last accountable party to make sure services are provided to the reservations, in other words that they are wired, whether the Federal Govt. sees that the private industry does it or not, is up to the function of the FCC, BIA, States, the tribes themselves. In looking at the multitude of services that are going to be provided thru our telecommunication system

(the internet) in the future, the govt. needs to recognize that these people need to access it, also they may not be aware of all the opportunities that they as a group should be able to avail themselves of. Having said this, the govt. needs to be aware of their responsibility for tribal inclusion in the advancement of all aspects of our society.

An example of the side issues which make a telecommunications necessary: The Federal Govt, thru its aid for dependent families is seeking to reduce the Federal roles in regards to certain economic groups (the govt. has given these parties ((the tribes)) a 5 year window to prepare for the time when the govt. wants to cut its aid, during this time the various tribes should strongly be encouraged to explore the various economic possibilities to replace that revenue stream). The government wants to have more members of the tribes working, one of the greatest capabilities needed to do this is a telecommunications system that makes the basic functions of employment available to the population base. I see the impact of e commerce as a way to free the tribal hands and provide a revenue source to this community that is not being currently used. This is not going to impact all parties that are involved, but it can be addressed to provide a significant revenue source that will grow, it can provide income for the participants, the ancillary benefits that accrue to those not directly involved, and the opportunities that we are not aware of now, that will come in the near future. There are many e commerce business's that could be implemented now, helping to provide that revenue base that the tribe(s) needs. If one looks at the tribal makeup now for most reservations, one would find a population base that is allowing technology to pass it by. There are probably a few on each reservation, some more than others, who know something about the internet, and there are a few schools who are wired, this condition needs to be addressed. The telemedicine area is another one of the needs of this population, and the ability of that to be done over the net is great. Some tribes are working to develop it, a telecommunications structure is mandatory to support this type of advancement in the rural area. These are but a few of the areas that can be explored, as an outsider, the tribes on the whole are skeptical of what we bring to their tables, but we need to provide them with the opportunities to accomplish this, their economic freedom not only now but future generations depend on it.

The federal govt. needs to see that the telecommunications needs of the Indian Nations are provided for, not only their current needs, but the needs of those for the future. There are a core group of tribal individuals that are schooled in the specialized needs of this population as its deals in the telecommunications area, as this is going

to be one of the most significant areas for the advancement of our population as a whole. One has to realize that the current generation of tribal members in current bureaucratic type positions are probably the first schooled generations, therefore they are the ones who are tackling the issue of bringing telecommunications to their constituents. It is very difficult when you have a group of tribal seniors (usually a council), who are trying to 'micromanage' each decision that impacts the tribe, the Federal Govt. needs to understand this and appreciate that until members of the tribe(s) who are looking to the advancement of the tribes, are taken into the decision making process, the wheels of progress our going to be non-existent. The area that I have started to work on, is that of setting up a group within the tribe that is looking at the economic needs of the the tribe as they are now and in the future, one of those elements is the need of a telecommunications system on tribal lands which will allow it to participate in the current economy and that of the future economy as it grows and changes. There needs to be a group within the tribal network who are more advanced thinkers of the tribe and get independent authority from this council / board to seek certain goals and to have the Federal Govt. assist them in accomplishing these pre-set parameters.

I realize that this has been short, but I hope that it has shed a little light on the topic. This can be looked at as a 'beta' project, and transferred to other similar aspects of our society, the rural part of our population that is in need.

Thanks for your time... Feel free to contact me anytime, I look forward to assisting you in the future..

David R. Dutro
(dig pagr 1-520-291-2355)

----- End Included Message -----

From: David Dutro <drd1@theriver.com>
To: Electronic Comment Filing System <ecfs@fccsun05w.f...>
Date: Fri, Dec 3, 1999 8:48 AM
Subject: Re: ECFS Reply Response to Docket No. 96-45

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> Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
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