April 11, 2007

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

RE: Docket No. 07-16

Dear Secretary Dortch:

Members of minority communities fall behind in many areas. Now, in this age of technology and widespread information exchange, those members are being further disadvantaged. Without access to the internet and its vast resources, they are missing out on many opportunities. As a member of a minority community, I frequently hear of such cases.

Here are a few reasons why the internet is so important. In many cases, it is cheaper for an employer to post an ad online ad than it is to run it in a traditional newspaper or other printed material. "Help wanted" sites have abounded within the last few years. In addition, more and more government and educational resources are available online and access to these is essential. Children suffer as well; only 52% of Latinos rate the quality of their public schools as positive. This is, in part, due to a lack of technology.

All Americans need affordable broadband access to be part of the economy, use government services and participate in civic discourse. I urge your commission to approve the proposal by M2Z Networks for fast, free family-friendly internet. This would be a great service to the members of my community, as well as all American citizens. If your commission approves docket # 7-16, it will help close the gap that exists between minority and non-minority communities.

Sincerely,

Yolanda Clay
State Democratic Executive Committeewoman
El Paso, Texas

CC: FCC Chairman, Kevin Martin
FCC Commissioners: Copps, Adelstein, Tate, McDowell
Fred Campbell, Chief, Wireless Bureau
Senator Hutchison
Senator Cornyn