

**Ferrell Blount**

P.O. Box 850  
Bethel, NC 27812

August 24, 2007

Chairman Kevin Martin  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Room #8B-201  
Washington, DC 20544

Dear Chairman Martin,

In only the last few years, broadband internet access has revolutionized the way Americans live, and has provided essential services that were previously unavailable. Unfortunately, the country that invented the internet has fallen to 15<sup>th</sup> in the world for broadband saturation. We must correct this and ensure that all of our citizens have access to the vital services the internet offers.

Many internet providers often fail to expand their networks to small communities or rural areas where they feel their services are not needed. The task of providing broadband access has regrettably fallen on local and municipal governments, who are forced to invest millions of dollars in tax revenue on networks that still may not reach all citizens in a community. These small networks are often not interoperable, and fail to provide the fast, reliable access that Americans require. Moreover, these systems often fall short of providing for the communications needs of public safety officials and first responders.

The proposal by M2Z Networks detailed in Docket # 07-16 will effectively serve the needs of these small and rural communities, and will relieve local governments of the burden of providing access. By supporting this proposal, you can help provide fast, free broadband internet access to 95% of Americans within 10 years. Additionally, your support will ensure that our first responders have free priority access to a reliable communications network, regardless of the size of their community.

Sincerely,



Ferrell Blount  
Immediate Past Chairman  
North Carolina Republican Party

CC: FCC Secretary Marlene Dortch  
Commissioner Copps  
Commissioner Adelstein  
Commissioner Tate  
Commissioner McDowell  
Wireless Bureau Chief Fred Campbell  
U.S. Senator Richard Burr  
U.S. Senator Elizabeth Dole  
U.S. Congressman G.K. Butterfield