



Mark Kasten
170 N. Main Ave.
Parker, SD 57053
mark.kasten@parkersd.org
Office: (605)297-4305

7.12.2007

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

RE: Docket No. 07-16

Dear Mrs. Secretary,

At present there are at least 114 million adults in the United States that have limited or no access to the Internet. This infrastructural inadequacy highlights a clear gap between the United States and many of its global counterparts, in addition to the ever increasing distance between Americans here at home.

All Americans need and deserve broadband access that is fast, free and family friendly. In addition to helping close the global gap in access, service like this would go a long way in bridging the digital divide that now separates Americans from themselves. Why is the playing field not level? Why is basic wireless broadband service not a right of every American?

Increasing access to wireless broadband technology would serve many ends: it would increase involvement in civic discourse by making news and governmental services more readily available, it would foster an equality of opportunity through the equality of access created and it would undeniably drive the American economy to grow.

I understand your commission is reviewing docket no. 07-16 that, if approved, would make fast, free and family friendly universal wireless Internet access throughout our country a reality.

Please do not let this historic opportunity lapse. Give Americans the right to use technology to make their lives, and our country, better.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Kasten", written over a horizontal line.

Mark Kasten
Director, Economic Development

CC: FCC Chairman, Kevin Martin
FCC Commissioners: Copps, Adelstein, Tate, McDowell
Fred Campbell, Chief, Wireless Bureau
Senator Tim Johnson
Senator John Thune