

# BLACK ECONOMIC COUNCIL

October 12, 2009

Chairman Julius Genachowski  
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker  
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn  
Commissioner Michael J. Copps  
Commissioner Robert M. McDowell

Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Broadband Industry Practices (WC Docket No. 07-52)

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

First let me introduce myself, I am the Chairman and Founder of the Black Economic Council (BEC) in California. Our mission it is to promote the self-sufficiency of Black Americans and all low-to-moderate-income communities. We advocate for policies and practices that advance financial literacy and streamline access to intellectual and fiscal capital.

Few things have opened eyes and minds like the Internet. It allows those who access it to bring the world to their doorstep. We are committed to increasing broadband adoption within the communities we serve; because we all know that information equals opportunity.

While we have been happy to see how fast broadband access has grown within the African- American community, especially in the mobile sector, we also know there is a great deal of work left to do. Investment, innovation and infrastructure are all critical components to continuing the strides we've seen so far.

That is why I took great interest in the FCC's consideration of net neutrality principles. We completely agree with President Obama's call to provide high-speed service to all – but net neutrality could have a dampening effect on adoption by discouraging service providers from making further investments in underserved communities.

African-American communities have benefitted from the advancements in broadband technology and are more connected than ever before. Therefore, I kindly ask the FCC to carefully consider any policy that may hinder future advancements in this critical field.

Sincerely,

Len Canty

Black Economic Council

[www.blackeconomiccouncil.org](http://www.blackeconomiccouncil.org)

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