



**NATIONAL GAY & LESBIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**  
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October 14, 2009

Julius Genachowski  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) – WC 07-52

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

At the National Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce® (NGLCC) we are honored to continue working with the FCC on the pending national broadband plan. The NGLCC is the business advocate and direct link between lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) business owners, corporations, and government, representing the interests of more than 1.4 million LGBT businesses and entrepreneurs. As we stated in our letter filed Jun 3, 2009, we believe it is vital that the FCC take advantage of this opportunity to build a plan that maximizes adoption and deployment of affordable broadband for all Americans.

The Internet is the driving force behind the 21<sup>st</sup> century economy, and is a critical tool for the success of LGBT owned businesses, and businesses in general. In today's uncertain economic climate broadband deployment and adoption creates new jobs and provides access to a wide range of economic, educational, and social opportunities. The final plan from the FCC needs to focus on policies that will spur adoption and deployment of broadband.

Although 90% of Americans have broadband available to them, only 63% are using it. The Commission needs to act to remedy barriers to adoption including, lack of computer ownership, lack of education on how to use technology, and lack of appreciation of the "relevance" of broadband.

While we can take pride in the fact that 90% of Americans have access to broadband, it is important to note that there is still work to be done to bring this transformative technology to all Americans.

We are concerned that some of the proposed regulations on the Internet, specifically those dealing with "net-neutrality" will delay adoption and slow deployment of broadband services. We support an open and transparently operated Internet, but to ensure the best user experience it is vital that private-sector providers have the ability to manage their own networks. Open management practices are necessary to ensure the reliable transmission of data, and ensure that consumers are protected from harmful worms and viruses.

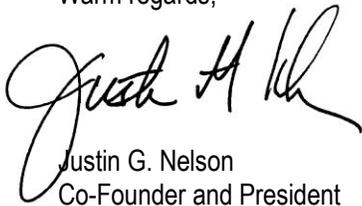
In the upcoming proposed rule making, the Commission needs to ensure that proposed net neutrality regulations do not derail efforts to promote the adoption and deployment of broadband. As they stand these proposed will reduce the incentive for private investment, and place consumers at considerable risk.

**America's LGBT Chamber of Commerce**

At the NGLCC we would like to repeat our call that the FCC takes advantage of this opportunity to bring the benefits of broadband to all Americans.

Sincerely,

Warm regards,



Justin G. Nelson  
Co-Founder and President



Chance Mitchell  
Co-Founder and CEO

Cc: Senator Reid; Senator Rockefeller; Senator Pryor; Senator Warner; Senator Begich; Senator McCaskill; Senator Hutchinson; Senator Snowe; Speaker Nancy Pelosi; Majority Whip Clyburn; Rep. Waxman; Rep. Boucher; Rep. Dingell; Rep. Barton; Rep. Stearns; Rep. Rush; Rep. Gonzalez