

October 13, 2009

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Robert M. McDowell
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St. SW
Washington, DC 20554

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

Dear Commissioners:

I've read with deep concern your recent series of comments on net neutrality and the agency's interest in pursuing regulations to maintain a free and open internet. We share your interest in maintaining an open Internet but have concerns about the impact of unnecessary regulations on corporate investment in broadband infrastructure.

We share the values mandated by Congress and the Obama Administration that all Americans should have access to a broadband connection to the Internet. That is one of the top priority goals of the NAACP, and we would urge the FCC to share that goal.

The highest communications policy priority should continue to be supporting broadband development and deployment, using broadband to help address urgent social policy issues and encouraging investment and the resulting direct and indirect job creation.

Pursuing a policy of net neutrality at the expense of broadband expansion would keep costs low for the large Internet content companies, but shift the costs of network expansion to consumers. The effects could be disastrous for low-income and minority communities, pricing them out of the broadband market altogether.

We would urge the FCC, therefore, to take a cautious approach to rulemaking that could discourage further broadband investment. Such a move would have a lasting impact on minority and low-income communities, and nip the economic recovery in the bud before it has a chance to bloom.

Sincerely,

Nathaniel McLaughlin

Nathaniel McLaughlin, President

Kansas City Kansas National Association for the Advance of Colored Peo

