



October 20, 2009

The Honorable Julius Genachowski, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

Thank you for providing us the opportunity to submit a National Digital Literacy Initiative (NDLI) for the Commission’s consideration in crafting the National Broadband Plan.

At One Economy, we have long recognized the importance of digital literacy in helping unserved and underserved communities access the life-enhancing and life-sustaining content available on the Internet. Our Digital Connectors program has provided digital literacy training to over 3,000 youth in low-income communities, giving them the tools to act as technology ambassadors in their own communities, where they have provided over 56,000 hours of community service.

Recognizing that the Internet has become “digital oxygen” for our nation’s economic growth and for an individual’s entrance into the economic mainstream, the NDLI could be one of the most important programs our nation undertakes to increase broadband adoption. The NDLI is a four-part plan to deliver digital literacy efforts in communities, in schools, through online and mobile curriculum, and through a national awareness campaign. It targets unserved or underserved people in urban and rural communities, including: low-income and minority individuals, persons who speak English as a Second Language, the elderly, Americans with Disabilities, and tribal communities. We brought our experience, research in the international arena, and the sage advice of those whose communities are most affected to help us develop the plan.

We appreciate your interest in One Economy’s proposed National Digital Literacy Initiative. Please feel free to contact me if you need further information.

Sincerely,

Rey Ramsey
Chief Executive Officer
One Economy Corporation

Cc: Blair Levin, Director, National Broadband Plan

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