

**Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554**

In the Matter of)	
)	
Inquiry Concerning the Deployment of)	GN Docket No. 09-137
Advanced Telecommunications Capability to)	
All Americans in a Reasonable and Timely)	
Fashion, and Possible Steps to Accelerate Such)	
Deployment Pursuant to Section 706 of the)	
Telecommunications Act of 1996, as Amended)	
by the Broadband Data Improvement Act)	
)	
A National Broadband Plan for Our Future)	GN Docket No. 09-51
)	
International Comparison and Consumer Survey)	GN Docket No. 09-47
Requirements in the Broadband Data)	
Improvement Act)	

**COMMENTS OF MABUHAY ALLIANCE (NBP PUBLIC NOTICE #30)
ASIAN AMERICANS SUPPORT PUBLIC HEARINGS REGARDING
NATIONAL BROADBAND PLAN**

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January 20, 2010

**COMMENTS OF MABUHAY ALLIANCE (NBP PUBLIC NOTICE #30)
ASIAN AMERICANS SUPPORT PUBLIC HEARINGS REGARDING
NATIONAL BROADBAND PLAN**

On behalf of 15 million Asian Americans, Mabuhay Alliance has filed numerous comments with this Commission regarding the support of Asian Americans for a National Broadband Plan that enhances the public interest and effectively includes underserved Asian American communities. See, for example:

- Our letter of October 13, 2009 to all commissioners entitled, “Public Interest Requires Comprehensive Public Involvement and Public Hearings Regarding Broadband Industry Practices”;
- Our December 1, 2009 comments entitled, “Comments of Mabuhay Alliance (NBP Public Notice #16) on Behalf of 15 Million Asian Americans Regarding Broadband Adoption: Pockets of Asian Americans at Third World Levels of Broadband Access, Adoption and Usage”; and
- Our December 3, 2009 comments entitled, “Comments of Mabuhay Alliance (NBP Public Notice #18) FCC Should Help Underserved Communities Gather Requested Data on Broadband.”

See also related filings:

- Asian American support increase for public interest issues raised on our December 21, 2009 comments entitled, “Comments of Mabuhay Alliance (NBP Public Notice #26): Asian Americans Support Increase Spectrum for Public Interest Issues”; and
- Our December 16, 2009 filing entitled, “Asian American Protest of Comcast Acquisition of CIMCO Communications: Should Be Part of Comcast/NBC Universal Application.”

Underlying all these filings is a strong current of support for Media Access Project’s efforts to ensure greater participation by the public. Unfortunately, as we noted at our San Diego October meeting on broadband with Chairman Genachowski and Commissioner Baker, the public and, in particular, Asian Americans, have played little or no role in FCC proceedings over the last decade and true public hearings that encourage participation by the Asian American community are far too rare. We are therefore most appreciative of Chairman Genachowski’s and other commissioners’ invite to Mabuhay Alliance to participate in a “hearing” on January 27th on diversity issues and Chairman Genachowski’s agreement with other commissioners to revisit us in San Diego to further discuss the role of Asian Americans in assisting the FCC’s public interest efforts.

In significant part, this rarity of participation by Asian Americans has compelled Mabuhay Alliance to set up five Asian American broadband conferences across the nation over the next nine months. The broadband conferences presently scheduled are February 19th in Washington, D.C., April 8th in Los Angeles, May 22nd in Chicago, July 24th in New York, and October 16th in San Francisco. Google, AT&T and Verizon have agreed to be major participants for the D.C. conference, as well as many corporations concerned about Asian American issues such as banks,

First American Title and MoneyGram. Mabuhay Alliance has also invited senior staff of the FCC, the FTC and the FDIC to participate.

If at all possible, the Asian American community hopes to work with the Media Access Project, Center for Digital Democracy, Consumer Watchdog, Consumers Union and the Consumers Federation of America, since they have a pro-consumer orientation that could, under most circumstances, strongly benefit other Asian American communities and because they have at this time far more technical expertise than we have.¹ And this expertise could be of extraordinary value particularly to underserved Asian America communities.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Faith Bautista
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/s/ Mia Martinez
Mia Martinez
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/s/ Robert Gnaizda
Robert Gnaizda
Of Counsel

Dated: January 20, 2010

¹ To ensure greater expertise and stronger working relationships with public interest groups, we will be opening our D.C. office on February 15th. Our focus will be on FCC, FTC, Department of Justice antitrust issues and federal banking regulatory issues as they impact the growing and diverse Asian American communities.