

February 17, 2010  
Ex Parte Notice

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Re: National Broadband Plan for Our Future, Gen. Docket No. 09-51

Dear Ms. Dortch:

From November 4 through December 12, 2009, the Federal Communications Commission conducted field research to discuss topics potentially relevant to the Commission policymaking regarding the national broadband plan.

In Philadelphia, November 5 and 6, the undersigned met with Carole Smith, MCOT; Stan Pokras, Executive Director, Nonprofit Technology Resources; and Gloria Guard, Ronald Edwards, and staff, People Emergency Center.

In Minneapolis, November 9 -13, the undersigned met with local residents individually or in focus groups; Catherine Settanni, founder of The Digital Access Project (supports technology access and digital literacy efforts in the Twin Cities) and The Computer Technology Empowerment Project; Libby Caulum, co-lead Program Directors of The Computer Technology Empowerment Project; and Michael McConnell, Coordinating Librarian, Warsame Mohamud Hassan, African Outreach Librarian, Saad I. Samatar, Reference Librarian, Hennepin County Library, Brooklyn Center.

In Albuquerque, November 16 -20, the undersigned met with Dr. Harold Bailey, Executive Director, African American Affairs; officials from the City of Albuquerque, including Diane Schaller, Assistant to the Chief Information Officer, and Dan Van Pelt, Manager of the Communications Group; and focus groups.

In Miami, December 8-12, the undersigned met with: Mark Needle, Policy Director, Collins Center For Public Policy; Didier J. Fabien, Chair, and Retha Boone, Director, Black Affairs Advisory Board; Reinaldo Valdes, Community Relations Board; James E. Osteen, Jr., Assistant Director, Lauren M. Cortina, Special Project Coordinator, and Vivian Bohorques, Director of Education and Policy, Elevate Miami; Kim Marcille Romaner, Executive Director, Miami-Dade Broadband Coalition; Nadine Dalrymple, Director of Operations, Deborah MacFarlane, Institutional Development, Senior Vice President, *Per Scholas*; Diane L. Diaz, Library Director, and library staff, Hialeah Public Library; Barbara Smith-Sims, Branch Supervisor, Miami Edison and Model City Libraries; Alison D. Austin, Chief Executive Officer, Belafonte Tacolcy Center; and residents and resident council members of Liberty Square Housing Project.

The topics discussed included challenges and barriers to broadband adoption within low income minority communities, resources needed to get these communities online, community resources already available, and what government and local organizations can do to increase broadband adoption within these communities.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Marie Lott Pharaoh  
National Broadband Task Force  
Federal Communications Commission  
202-418-0489