

THE COUNTY OF **ISANTI**

Government Center
555 - 18th Ave. SW
Cambridge, MN 55008

COMMISSIONERS

1st District
George Larson

2nd District
Larry Southerland

3rd District
Tom Pagel

4th District
Kurt L. Daudt

5th District
Susan Morris

COUNTY COORDINATOR

Jerry T. Tvedt

Barbara E. Baar
Human Resource Director

Hannah Christenson,
Administrative Assistant

763-689-3859

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Commissioner Meredith Atwell Baker
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Robert M. McDowell

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: GN Docket No. 09-191

April 2, 2010

Dear Chairman Genachowski and Commissioners:

Currently, I serve as an Isanti County Commissioner representing the Spencer Brook, Stanford and Athens Townships located in central Minnesota. In my role as County Commissioner, I sit on a wide-ranging number of boards and committees, including the Central Minnesota Jobs Training Workforce, Economic Development, Labor Management, and Library Board and Metro Emergency Service Board. Isanti County is home to more than 39,000 Minnesotans.

As a civic leader in my community, I recognize the important ways broadband can help foster community development in rural areas, and I worry that the application of new net neutrality regulations to broadband could result in a number of unintended consequences. Thus, I am writing to express my apprehension regarding the Commission's decision to pursue the implementation of net neutrality regulations as proposed in the Open Internet Notice of Proposed Rulemaking.

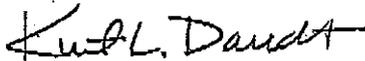
Rural communities face many unique challenges in increasing broadband adoption, including issues posed by demographics and network availability. According to the Pew Internet and American Life Project, "Rural Americans tend to be older, less avid online users and thus less interested in home connections. And some parts of rural America also don't have the infrastructure for providing broadband at home." While the Administration has attempted to tackle some those challenges through the National Telecommunications & Information Administration's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program grants and the National Broadband Plan's suggestion to reform the Universal Service Fund, there is still a lot of work left to be done to fully connect our rural communities.



One silver lining for the rural infrastructure challenge is the recent and continued progress of wireless broadband – making it possible to connect anyone anywhere. Applying new net neutrality regulations to this continually evolving technology could pose disastrous consequences to its utility. In the past 25 years, mobile technology has grown from a device capable of only making calls to the equivalent of a computer in your hand, all without any form of net neutrality regulation. Until the Commission can assure the proposed regulations will not negatively impact wireless broadband and substantiate its decision with data and research, I see no need to implement new net neutrality regulations.

Moreover, I implore the Commission to employ the same methodology and public discourse as it used to craft the National Broadband Plan so Americans in all areas of the country can have an opportunity to weigh in during this critical debate.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kurt L. Daudt". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Kurt Daudt
Isanti County Commissioner