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Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative, Inc.

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May 7, 2010

Hon. Mark Begich
144 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-0001

Hon. Lisa Murkowski
709 Hart Building
Washington, DC 20510

Hon. Don Young
2111 Rayburn Building
Washington, DC 20515-0201

Re: FCC 10-58 NOI Concerning the National Broadband Plan

The Board of Directors for Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative, Inc. and representing the Alaska Native villages of Anaktuvuk Pass, Atkasuk, Barrow, Kaktovik, Nuiqsut, Point Lay, Point Hope and Wainwright, ask for your assistance in stopping the marginalization of our need for broadband that is being promised **for all Americans** in the recently unveiled National Broadband Plan.

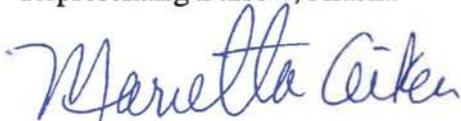
In the recent Notice of Inquiry released April 21, 2010 (FCC 10-58) paragraph 22, the Commission sought comment "... on the role of a model in identifying the most costly areas to serve, where the Commission may want to consider alternative approaches to providing access to broadband and voice services." Footnote 57 associated with this sentence identifies satellite broadband as an alternative approach "for addressing the most costly areas of the country to minimize the contribution burden to consumers across America." Footnote 60 acknowledges the total inadequacy of satellite capacity to deliver broadband, stating "While satellite is capable of delivering speeds that meet the National Availability Target, satellite capacity can meet only a small portion of broadband demand in unserved areas for the foreseeable future." The entire Arctic Slope region of Alaska being served by ASTAC is part of the most expensive high cost group being referenced and a target for this blatantly inadequate alternative approach.

The FCC seems intent on confiscating USF to pay for "100 squared" service to the urban and suburban areas while leaving the most rural, insular Tribal Lands with no chance to participate in the digital economy. This is grossly discriminatory and we request that you fight for our right for equality as American citizens and Alaska Natives.

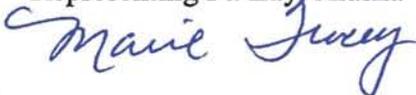
USF provides affordable voice service for every home in rural Alaska, something that did not exist a couple of decades ago when there was one phone for the entire village. Taking away our high cost support for voice service and not making the investment to bring us broadband is a shameful return to the past practices concerning treatment of Tribal entities. We should do better for all Americans.

Respectfully submitted,

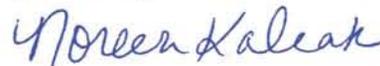
Marietta Aiken, President
Representing Barrow, Alaska



Marie Tracey, Vice President
Representing Pt. Lay, Alaska



Noreen Kaleak, Sec./Treasurer
Representing Kaktovik, Alaska



Ella Kowunna, Director
Representing Pt. Hope, Alaska



Margaret Pardue, Director
Representing Nuiqsut, Alaska



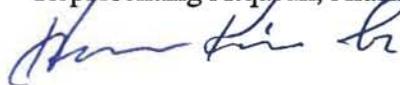
Terry Tagarook, Director
Representing Wainwright, Alaska



Patrick Mekiana, Director
Representing Anaktuvuk Pass, Alaska



Herman Kignak, Director
Representing Atkasuk, Alaska



Cc: Hon. Julius Genachowski
Hon. Michael J. Copps
Hon. Robert M. McDowell
Hon. Mignon Clyburn
Hon. Meredith Attwell Baker