

**Terry Morrow**  
State Representative

District 23A  
Nicollet and Sibley Counties



# Minnesota House of Representatives

August 4, 2011

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

Re: Comments, IB Docket No. 11-109

Dear Secretary Dortch:

I write to request the Commission's help in bringing reliable broadband Internet and cell phone coverage to rural communities, including those that I represent.

I represent a rural district in southern Minnesota comprised of Nicollet and Sibley Counties. The cities in my district include St. Peter, which has about 10,000 residents, and North Mankato, which has about 11,000 residents. The rest of my district lives in small towns and on farms. Much of my district lacks reliable and sufficient broadband coverage, with many farmers and towns still using dial-up modems. This problem limits students' ability to access educational materials, prevents older constituents from using health-care services that would enable them to remain in their homes, and discourages companies who demand sufficient Internet access as a prerequisite to operating in my rural district.

I call upon the Commission to approve policies to address this deficit. America cannot afford to have rural areas stuck with second-class technology and expect that these areas will continue to be able to feed the world and compete in the global economy. I encourage the Commission to move without delay and support proposals that support our rural communities. I stand ready to offer any assistance that the Commission might request.

Sincerely,

  
Terry Morrow  
State Representative

