

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

January 28, 2013

0085

The Honorable Julius Genachowski
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

Reforming the Universal Service Fund (USF) and Intercarrier Compensation (ICC) and creating the Connect America Fund (CAF) in 2012 to target broadband infrastructure is vital to rural America. The Federal Communications Commission must proceed expeditiously with the distribution of the CAF Phase I incremental support funds in 2013.

Broadband is a key economic driver in the 21st century. Unfortunately, over 400,000 households in West Virginia do not have access to robust broadband service according to FCC data. Development of broadband to our underserved citizens of West Virginia will increase access to online education, remote healthcare and employment opportunities and access to high-speed wireless service. Applications relying on robust broadband infrastructure are now essential in agricultural markets, for emerging small businesses, and for consumer access to online retailers.

The Commission's Further Notice issued on November 19, 2012 proposing to enable access to CAF I funds in 2013 is promising. The FCC must act as soon as possible to ensure West Virginians are given every available opportunity to grow and compete. We cannot continue to leave rural Americans behind.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me or Cory Toth of my staff at (202) 225-4172, or by email at cory.toth@mail.house.gov.

Sincerely,



David B. McKinley, P.E.
Member of Congress



**Federal Communications Commission
Office of Legislative Affairs
Washington, D.C. 20554**

Office of the Director

February 27, 2013

The Honorable David B. McKinley
U.S. House of Representatives
313 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman McKinley:

Thank you for your letter commenting on the Commission's *Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* in its Universal Service Connect America Fund (CAF) proceeding. The Commission is dedicated to distributing all CAF funds in the most effective manner to preserve and advance voice and broadband service, including accelerating the deployment of modern communications networks to consumers who lack access to robust broadband. Your views are very important and will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

I appreciate your interest in this matter. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gregory Guice".

Gregory Guice
Director
Office of Legislative Affairs