

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

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February 22, 2013

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

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

Colorado has a robust digital economy that has brought innovation and entrepreneurship to numerous industries, generating jobs and economic development and enabling our citizens to take advantage of telemedicine, distance learning and many other online opportunities. But our digital economy rests on broadband availability, and unfortunately, based on the latest data released by the FCC, there are still over 220,000 Coloradans who do not have broadband access.

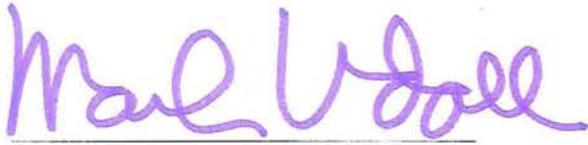
We believe the Federal Communications Commission could make significant progress in reaching more unserved households in Colorado and across the nation through near-term action on two key programs: The Connect America Fund Phase I incremental support mechanism ("CAF 1") and the Remote Areas Fund ("RAF").

In 2012, the Commission awarded less than half of the funds available through CAF I incremental support, while millions of households across the country continued to wait for broadband availability. We are encouraged by the Commission's recent steps to make more funding available through CAF I incremental support, and hope you will act as soon as possible to reach more unserved households.

We also see an important opportunity to implement the RAF once the Commission has heard from all parties through the formal comment process. A practical, technology-neutral implementation of the RAF is long overdue. We see no reason for residential, school and business customers in the most remote areas of Colorado to wait any longer to obtain the benefits of broadband. Both CAF 1 and the RAF should be implemented without prejudicing the long-term CAF II program.

We appreciate your consideration of our views, and look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Mark Udall in blue ink, written in a cursive style.

Mark Udall
United States Senator

Handwritten signature of Michael F. Bennet in blue ink, written in a cursive style.

Michael F. Bennet
United States Senator



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

Office of the Director

February 27, 2013

The Honorable Michael Bennet
United States Senate
702 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Bennet:

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 "G. Guice", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Gregory Guice
Director
Office of Legislative Affairs



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

Office of the Director

February 27, 2013

The Honorable Mark Udall
United States Senate
317 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Udall:

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Sincerely,

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Gregory Guice
Director
Office of Legislative Affairs