



VIA ECFS

February 28, 2014

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554
Attn: Wireline Competition Bureau

**Re: WC Docket No. 10-90
Rural Broadband Experiment Expression of Interest for Price Cap Areas
Venture Communications Cooperative**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Venture Communications Cooperative ("Venture") hereby expresses interest in participating in the Commission's rural broadband experiments to provide robust, scalable high-speed broadband to unserved high-cost areas with additional Connect America funding.¹ Venture is an ILEC serving rural areas of South Dakota, and proposes deployment as follows.

Proposed Service Area

The experiment will provide broadband service to 923 eligible high-cost locations in unserved high-cost Census Blocks within these Census Tract(s):

South Dakota:	Faulk	46049961100
	Hand	46049975600
	Hughes	46046978000
	Sully	46049979100

Proposed Services

Voice and Broadband services with broadband transmission speeds of at least 3 Mbps downstream/768 kbps upstream provided over fixed wireless technology. The actual achievable broadband service will be determine when the design has been completed.

Funding

Venture estimates construction costs to be a total of \$1.9M based on knowledge of the area. The costs will be refined if and when a formal proposal is submitted. Venture requests \$1.9 M

¹ See *Technology Transitions et al.*, GN Docket No. 13-5 et al., Order, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, Report and Order, Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, Proposal for Ongoing Data Initiative, FCC 14-5 (rel. Jan. 31, 2014).



in funding from Connect America Funds in a one-time funding and will fund ongoing expenses to operate the system.

Venture expects service within the unserved high-cost Census Blocks to be offered within a year after construction starts.

Venture appreciates the opportunity to provide this non-binding expression of interest. Please contact the undersigned with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Randy Houdek". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Randy Houdek
General Manager