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March 3, 2014

Ms. Marlene Dortch
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Expression of Interest Letter – WC Docket 10-90, Connect America Fund

Dear Ms. Dortch:

This letter is submitted to Express Interest in participating in the Rural Broadband Experiments. GBT Communications is a wholly owned subsidiary of Golden Belt Telephone Association incumbent Rate of Return local exchange carrier (“RoR LEC”) providing voice and broadband services to rural consumers for over 60 years in rural Kansas, with an average density of 1.3 customers per square mile. This track record proves that GBT Communications has the experience and dedication to rural consumers needed to successfully deploy broadband in unserved areas. GBT Communications will look at collaborating with area communication providers to serve areas of interest.

Broadband networks, particularly high-speed broadband networks, are expensive to build, and cost recovery typically requires multiple years in rural high-cost areas, and GBT Communications is very interested in partnering with the FCC to conduct experiments to find creative ways of deploying high-speed, scalable, IP-based networks in rural high-cost areas. In particular, GBT Communications recognizes the need for service to be available to local schools, hospitals and other anchor institutions to ensure rural economic development and opportunity for all Americans. GBT has extended fiber out to reach all the schools located in its current operating area. To that end, GBT Communications will take all steps to ensure our experiments maximize accessibility for all anchor institutions in the proposed areas. The details of our potential experiment may be found below.

Location of Potential Experiments

GBT Communications is interested in providing service to eligible locations in Rush, Stafford, Pawnee, and Edwards Counties in Central and Western Kansas. According to the FCC’s release of potentially eligible Tracts, there are several eligible locations within the

Tract that are underserved. These locations include schools, libraries, hospitals and other anchor institutions which would benefit from the experiment.

Broadband Technology

Based on the funding level available, GBT Communications would use a combination of fiber to the premise, hybrid fiber coax, and fixed LTE to deploy broadband-capable network in the areas considered underserved.

Service Offerings

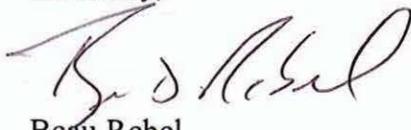
The IP Network described above would be capable of supporting voice and high-speed broadband of at least 4Mbps downstream and 1Mbps upstream. Anchor institutions would be able to receive broadband of at least 50 Mbps downstream. The exact price of these services still needs to be determined; however, they will likely be similar to GBT Communications' current offerings to our existing customers.

Necessary Funding

GBT Communications couldn't accurately estimate the cost of the project because of the short time frame, amount of detail required, and the different entities involved.

GBT Communications thanks the FCC for the opportunity to participate in this process. Any questions about this letter of interest should be directed to Beau Rebel at the information below.

Sincerely,



Beau Rebel

GBT Communications

Voice: 785-372-4236

Email: brebel@gbta.net