

Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20510

Received & Inspected  
APR 30 2014  
FCC Mail Room

April 22, 2014

454

Thomas E. Wheeler  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th St. SW  
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Wheeler:

We are writing to offer our strong support for a proposal submitted by Broad Valley Micro Fiber Networks LLC for funding under the Rural Broadband Experiment program. Broad Valley submitted an expression of interest as according to the Commission's Order released on January 31, 2014.

Broad Valley is an entrepreneurial start-up company currently putting the final touches on the design of a state-of-the-art fiber-based broadband network that it plans to deploy throughout the State of Delaware. Broad Valley plans to offer a portfolio of broadband connectivity services utilizing this network. The Company's business will be focused primarily on delivering the broadband access necessary to compete in today's digital world to unserved and underserved markets in rural areas of Delaware in order to support and drive economic growth in those areas.

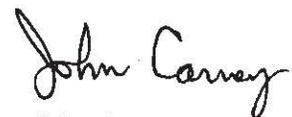
We believe the Broad Valley proposal will result in the delivery of high bandwidth services to rural areas that have largely been left behind. Therefore, we support this proposal and hope that it will be fully funded. If we can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us through Karen McGrath, Senator Carper's office at (302) 856-7690, Kate Rohrer in Senator Coons office at (302) 736-5601 and Drew Slater in Congressman Carney's office at (302) 854-0667.

Sincerely,



Tom Carper  
United States Senator

Chris Coons  
United States Senator



John Carney  
United States Congressman

CC: Commission Secretary Marlene H. Dortch



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

May 7, 2014

The Honorable Thomas Carper  
United States Senate  
513 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Carper:

Thank you for your letter regarding Broad Valley Micro Fiber Networks, LLC, and its Fiber-to-the-Premises (FTTP) broadband deployment project. I appreciate your views and will ensure that your letter will be included in the record of the proceeding and considered as part of the Commission's review.

In a unanimously adopted *Technology Transitions Order (Order)* in January, the Commission recognized that particular challenges exist for the deployment of next generation communications services in rural areas. In order to inform our policies on building next generation networks in rural America, the Commission invited proposals parties to submit expressions of interest to determine whether there is interest into constructing high bandwidth networks in rural, high-cost areas, including Tribal lands.

A diverse set of entities have filed nearly 1,000 expressions of interest, including rural telephone companies, electric co-ops, cable and wireless Internet service providers, schools and libraries, research and education networks, and rural communities. The proposals reflect the understanding that high bandwidth services are becoming increasingly important to the future of economic development, education, health care, government services, entertainment, information, communication and creativity.

The Commission currently is reviewing the expressions of interest that have been submitted, and we have sought public comment on a number of rural broadband experiment issues, including the size of the budget and selection criteria to be used in reviewing proposals. After completing a review of the submissions and the record in response to our *Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, the Commission would adopt an Order setting a budget and establishing detailed selection criteria for rural broadband experiments. At that point, we would invite parties, such as Broad Valley, to submit formal proposals for consideration by Commission staff.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tom Wheeler".

Tom Wheeler



OFFICE OF  
THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

May 7, 2014

The Honorable Chris Coons  
United States Senate  
383 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

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THE CHAIRMAN

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON

May 7, 2014

The Honorable John Carney  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1406 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Carney:

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