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As a consumer and someone who lives rurally, I would appreciate any effort to get broadband out to rural areas. The large phone carriers (Century Link in my area, as well as Verizon and Sprint) and cable companies are ignoring this segment of their customers by not providing internet access or cable. Our cell phones don't even work, yet we are only 7 miles from Siler City, NC and 9 miles from Pittsboro, NC. Also, many rural areas only have wireless towers for one carrier, making wireless broadband inaccessible to those not being customers of that carrier or have a single tower where there are no plans to upgrade to provide internet access. I am a scientist employed full time and work from home 1-2 days per week and am therefore terribly dependent upon internet access. My husband owns a small business and many of the state and federal agencies require internet service to file monthly and quarterly payroll, reports, unemployment quarterly reports, etc., as well as making direct deposits to their sites. The only alternative for any type of internet connection I have is satellite, which is hugely expensive, terribly slow, and doesn't accommodate online meetings, wireless security cameras, etc. In our case topography is not a barrier. My neighbors are accountants, bankers, lawyers, etc., not just cows!