



**State of North Carolina  
Office of Information Technology Services**

**Pat McCrory  
Governor**

**Chris Estes  
State Chief Information Officer**

June 13, 2014

Marlene H. Dortch  
Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Notice of Ex Parte presentation in WC 13-184

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On June 11, 2014, the Governor of North Carolina, Pat McCrory, and members of his staff, met individually with Chairman Wheeler, Commissioner O'Rielly, and Commissioner Rosenworcel, and members of their staffs. Accompanying the Governor were Chris Estes, State Chief Information Officer; Mike Ozburn, assistant to the State CIO and lead for NC Connect; and Virginia Johnson, Director of Federal Relations for the State of North Carolina.

The Governor discussed the importance of technology as the infrastructure for North Carolina's growth and prosperity in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, and highlighted the importance of closing the 78% gap in "Desktop Access" in North Carolina schools as the State moves toward its goal for Digital Learning in 2017. The Governor also discussed his request that the Commission utilize a portion of the unused and unspent E-Rate funds, identified by the Chairman earlier this year, to support the expansion of Desktop Access in North Carolina, during the transition to the new rules being considered in this proceeding.

Further information is contained in the attached powerpoint presentation that was distributed at the meetings.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mike Ozburn".

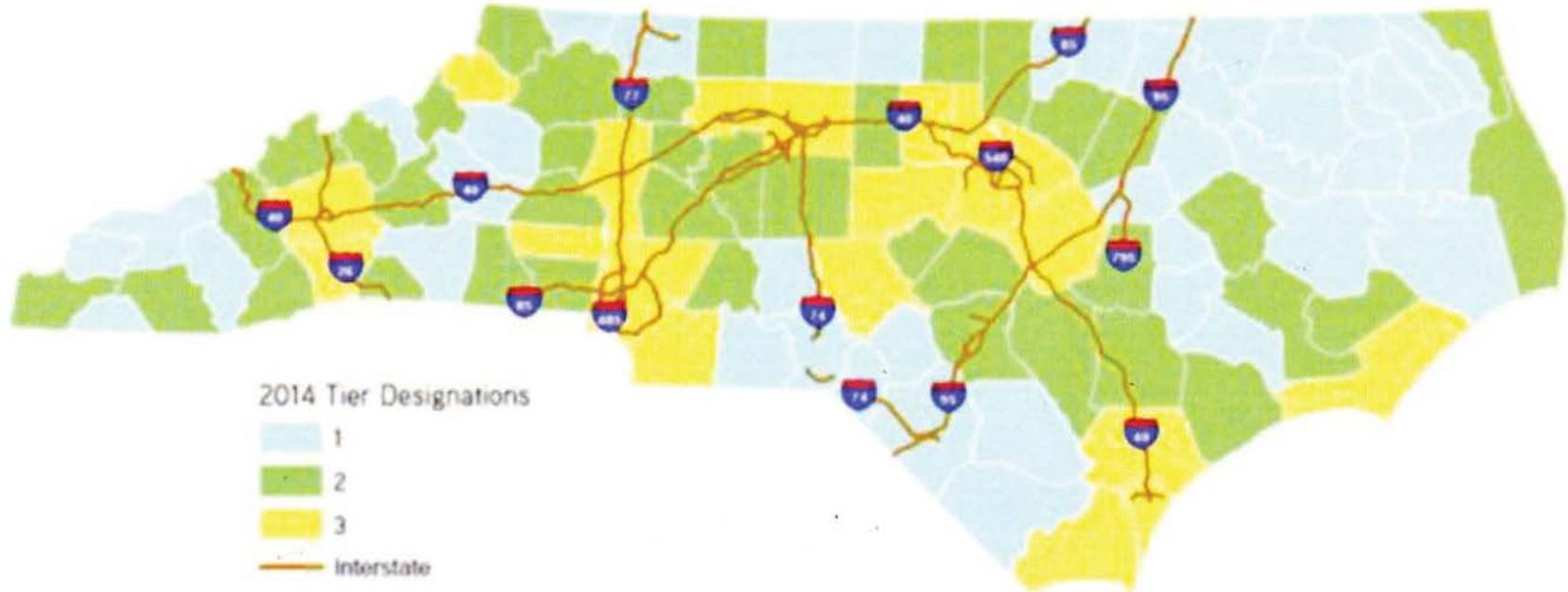
Mike Ozburn

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# Speeding NC Infrastructure With E-Rate

Briefing For FCC Meetings  
June 5, 2014

# Infrastructure: From Pipes to People



## 20<sup>th</sup> Century

### Physical Infrastructure is key

- Rural electrification
- Roads
- Research Triangle Park

## 21<sup>st</sup> Century

### Technology Infrastructure is key

- Broadband Networks
- Low-Cost Cloud Computing
- Personal Service Platform

# E-Rate in NC: From Pipes to People



2006 - 2014

## Dedicated to building Physical Network

- State Research Network (NCREN)
- School Connectivity Initiative (\$150M)
- Ongoing network support (\$20M/year)
- 100% High-Speed Access / 98% Fiber

2014 - 2022

## Dedicated to building Service Platform

- 2017 goal of Digital Learning Legislation
- NC Education Cloud
- **Close the 78% gap in Desktop Access**
- Investment in People and Services

# From Mitchell County to Mooresville



## Mitchell County

- 2007: Trouble with basic phone service
- DPI + NCSU + MCNC = Dedicated Fiber
- Client Network Engineering support
- LAN/WAN upgrade & Virtual Classrooms

## Mooresville

- 2007: Vision for “Future-Ready Students”
- Improve “Teaching and Learning”
- 100% Digital Conversion
- Ranks 3<sup>rd</sup> in Achievement & 2<sup>nd</sup> in Graduation
- 2013 National Superintendent of the Year

# E-Rate Investment:

# Pipes AND People



## E-Rate Phase 1.0

- Concern for states that lag behind
- FCC assists by focusing the effort
- Invest in proven build models



## E-Rate 2.0

- Desktop Access is THE key accelerator
- FCC assists by supporting “holistic plans”
- Early investment to spur conversion

**North Carolina urges the Commission to invest its unused and unspent funds on both sides of this portfolio**