



Colby-Sawyer
College

March 22, 2010

The Honorable Larry Strickling
Assistant Secretary of Commerce
National Telecommunications and Information Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

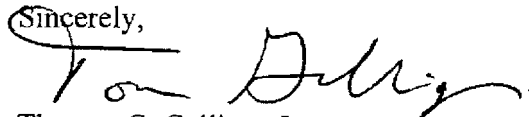
For five years, Colby-Sawyer College has been participating in regional discussions regarding public broadband initiatives, and has been supportive of WCNH.net's efforts to bring affordable high-speed internet access to this region. On behalf of the college, I wish to express our support for the joint statewide broadband proposal submitted by the University of New Hampshire in conjunction with NH FastRoads (a consortium of the NH Community Development Finance Authority, the Monadnock Economic Development Corporation, and 43 towns in the Monadnock and Upper Valley-Lake Sunapee regions of New Hampshire). I understand that the State of New Hampshire will be submitting a joint application to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) Broadband Technologies Opportunities Program (BTOP) Round 2 program.

Colby-Sawyer College is impacted directly by the high cost of connectivity due to insufficient supply and inadequate price competition in New Hampshire. The college, which as a private institution relies largely on tuition revenue, has a contract for T3 access through a private vendor at a substantial cost (the specific terms of our contract are confidential) because the local infrastructure does not support the college's broadband needs. As every penny that we spend on utilities is one less penny that can be spent on education, we look forward to the availability of less expensive alternatives. The Network New Hampshire Project being proposed by the statewide partner group led by the University of New Hampshire will be extremely useful for us, and hence to our students and their families.

Please allow this letter to also serve as a notice of intent to purchase services from the NH Fastroads Network, should the network be constructed, with the anticipated savings.

We at Colby-Sawyer College are enthusiastically committed to New Hampshire's broadband efforts. We encourage the funding and construction of this project, and we look forward to being a customer of the finished network.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Galligan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "T" and a long, sweeping underline.

Thomas C. Galligan Jr.
President and Professor of Humanities