



TOWN OF SWANZEY

620 OLD HOMESTEAD HIGHWAY
P.O. BOX 10009
SWANZEY, NH 03446-0009
TOWN HALL (603)-352-7411 FAX (603)-352-6250

March 23, 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:

On behalf of the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Swanzey, I wish to express our commitment to the joint statewide broadband proposal submitted by the University of New Hampshire. The State of New Hampshire will be submitting a joint application on behalf of several colleges and universities as well as NH FastRoads, a community broadband effort, to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) Broadband Technologies Opportunities Program (BTOP) Round 2 program. Our town, Swanzey, its businesses and citizens are impacted directly by lack of available connectivity and by the high cost of connectivity due to insufficient supply and inadequate price competition in New Hampshire.

Robust and reliable broadband connectivity is critical to successful economic development and high quality of life within our Town. As an organization we rely on broadband to deliver effective and efficient service to our residents and seek opportunities to improve (through technology) necessary public services to our residents. Limited broadband access throughout our community limits equal access by all of our citizens. Lacking a robust and reliable broadband results in negative impacts for business development, education, health care and economic opportunities within our town. 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 customers.

For these reasons, Swanzey Selectmen are enthusiastically committed to New Hampshire's efforts at constructing the Network New Hampshire Project and NH FastRoads. We encourage the funding and construction of this project, and we look forward to being a customer of the finished network.

Sincerely,

Chairman, Board of Selectmen