



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:

On behalf of The Greater Keene Chamber of Commerce, 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. The Greater Keene Chamber of Commerce is 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 our Chamber of Commerce. We rely on broadband to connect to or contact our membership. We are currently unable to expand our services due to inadequate access to reliable and affordable broadband services. 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, we at the Chamber 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,

E Thomas Dowling

E Thomas Dowling, President
Greater Keene Chamber of Commerce