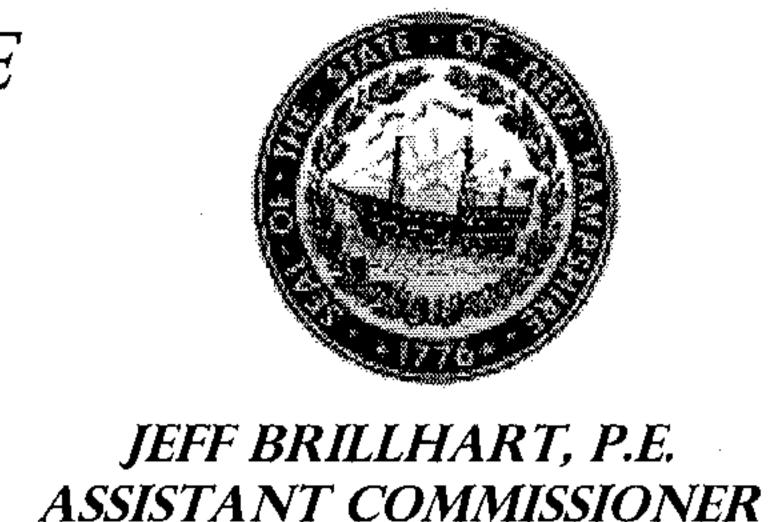


THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION



GEORGE N. CAMPBELL, JR. COMMISSIONER

March 19, 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 Strickland,

On behalf of the New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT), I wish to express our commitment to the statewide broadband proposal titled Network New Hampshire Now (#4248) submitted by the University of New Hampshire (UNH) to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), Broadband Technologies Opportunities Program (BTOP) Round-2 program.

Transportation, especially intelligent transportation systems (ITS) are highly reliant on all forms of broadband technology. NHDOT gathers real-time weather & current roadway travel conditions from a variety of automated and / or manual information sources throughout the state. The Department then publishes this information to the internet & 511 traveler information systems for use by the public so they may make informed travel decisions. All forms of information gathering & dissemination are reliant on broadband technology and its associated infrastructure.

The project design includes the construction of a fiber conduit through Manchester to Concord as designed and prepared by the NHDOT involving a run of a 244-fiber sheath in buried conduit within the I-93 controlled-access highway. NHDOT will provide all design documentation and perform all construction within this project segment as a sub-awardee.

The entire infrastructure proposed within the UNH proposal would greatly enhance our ability to provide a consistent level of information service to the public in all geographic portions of the state regardless of population density, lack of established commercial services, or proximity to interstate highway or metropolitan area. These increased services improve traveler safety, quality of life, reduces traffic congestion, and the subsequent air, water & noise pollution that result from traffic congestion.

Since the NHDOT, our partner UNH, and other NH institutions will benefit greatly from this project, we are committed to seeking the required matching state funds to the project in the amount 1.4 million dollars. We strongly encourage the funding and construction of this project so we can begin to provide the advanced services the result will allow.

Sincerely,

Michael P. Pillsbury, P.E. Deputy Commissioner