

March 18, 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:

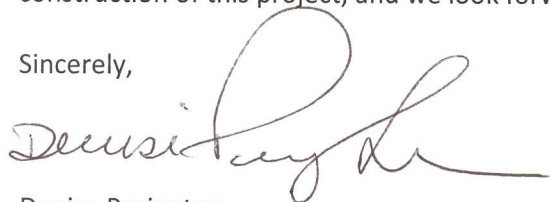
On behalf of Elliot Health System, I wish to express our commitment to the statewide broadband proposal titled Network New Hampshire Now (#4248) submitted by the University of New Hampshire to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) Broadband Technologies Opportunities Program (BTOP) Round 2 program. The Elliot Health System is impacted directly by the high cost of connectivity due to insufficient supply and inadequate price competition in New Hampshire.

Elliot Health System relies heavily on our ability to have access to technologies such as broadband which allows us to make accessible our Electronic Medical Record to all our providers in the southern tier of the state. Our current reliance on providers like FairPoint Communications and ComCast prevents us from having access to infrastructure that can accommodate the need for increased bandwidth at a cost effective rate. Our ability to flex our needs is limited and we are at the mercy of these providers when outages occur.

Robust and reliable broadband connectivity is critical to The Elliot Health System. We rely on broadband to provide access to our Electronic Medical Record to our providers across Southern New Hampshire which includes access to digital images and video records. The Network New Hampshire Now Project will be extremely useful for us, and hence to our customers.

For these reasons, we at The Elliot Health System are enthusiastically committed to New Hampshire's efforts at constructing the Network New Hampshire Now Project. We encourage the funding and construction of this project, and we look forward to being a customer of the finished network.

Sincerely,



Denise Purington  
Vice President and Chief Information Officer  
Elliot Health System