



LYNN C. RUST, CPA PC
A CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

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:

In my capacity as the owner of a medium sized full service CPA firm, Treasurer and Board Member of the Greater Keene Chamber of Commerce, a board member of Monadnock Economic Development Corporation, and Trustee of the Savings Bank of Walpole I have come to understand the need for the benefits the successful implementation of the New Hampshire Fast Roads project would bring to this section of our state.

On behalf of Lynn C. Rust, CPA PC, I wish to express our commitment to the joint statewide broadband proposal Network New Hampshire. Now (proposal number 4248), submitted by the University of New Hampshire. The State of New Hampshire will be submitting a joint application on behalf of colleges and universities, hospitals, libraries, telecommunications carriers and emergency services providers 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. Lynn C. Rust, CPA PC 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. Not a day goes by that we don't feel the need to be able to transfer data between our clients and our office with more security and greater speed.

With this increased broadband availability we would be able to continue to grow Lynn C. Rust, CPA PC and not only give our customers better service but would mostly likely hire more employees to deal with the growth that would come from being able to be connected at faster speeds for reasonable rates. We have tried this past year to do a portion of our continuing professional education over the internet and the existing available and affordable broadband is just too slow to make this desire a successful possibility. With more broadband capacity we will be able to support more of our 2,000 clients via the internet which will save on travel time as well as allow us to be even more sensitive to consuming less fossil fuels. The existence of more broadband will allow us to convert some of our employees into virtual employees who can work from home. Again working from home will save on fossil fuels as well as allow employees to work during inclement weather periods when driving is not safe. Finally the increase in broadband will most likely attract a variety of new businesses to our area that could utilize our services.

High speed and reliable broadband connectivity is critical to Lynn C. Rust, CPA PC. We rely on broadband to communicate nationwide with our clients, software vendors, and service providers. We are limited in our ability to expand our market for 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 and community.

For these reasons, we at Lynn C. Rust, CPA PC 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,

Lynn C. Rust, CPA

LCR/tbm