



LYME
PROPERTIES
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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:

As the Managing Director of Lyme Properties, 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. Lyme Properties and our subsidiary business entities 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.

As the owner of commercial real estate I can attest that access to fairly priced broadband service is vital to our success in attracting tenants for our existing and planned buildings. We are in the early stage of developing River Park, a mixed-use development that will include over 600,000 square feet of new office and research space. This project will produce up to 2,000 permanent professional jobs in addition to significant construction related economic development. Our ability to move forward with the project will depend on being able to offer a full package of infrastructure to new tenants, including broadband at a reasonable cost.

Robust and reliable broadband connectivity is critical to our success in commercial real estate. We are not able to currently meet the full demand for broadband services due to inadequate and unaffordable access to 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 Lyme Properties 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Clem". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

David Clem
Managing Director