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March 20, 2012

Chairman Julius Genachowski  
Commissioner Robert M. McDowell  
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12 Street SW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski, Commissioner McDowell, and  
Commissioner Clyburn:

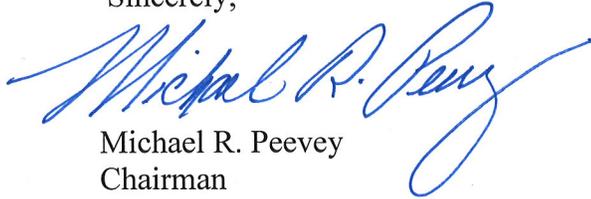
We are writing to request that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) develop a partnership with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), California Broadband Council (representing the State of California Administration and Legislature), and the California Emerging Technology Fund (CETF) to implement the National Broadband Plan in California. Over the last five years, California has made significant progress in developing and implementing strategic actions plans with quantified goals and metrics to close the Digital Divide. Our efforts align with the National Broadband Plan and serve as examples of how several of your recommendations can be advanced. Thus, we commend the FCC for your vision and leadership. And, we invite the opportunity to partner with you.

California is the key to closing the Digital Divide in America: California is 13% of the nation's population with some of the most challenging terrain for expanding deployment and some of the most disadvantaged communities for increasing adoption. Thus, it is essential that the FCC work closely with those governmental and non-profit organizations that know the diversity of California, have existing partnerships with community-based organizations, and can effectively collaborate with the providers and other private-sector entities. Enclosed are comments submitted to the FCC on the National Broadband Plan and reform of the Universal Services Fund. In these documents we emphasize the imperative to: (a) work through existing efforts in states that have a focus on broadband and have taken the initiative to close the Digital Divide and promote Digital Inclusion; (b) integrate strategies for a comprehensive approach to serve priority communities, particularly to transform low-income neighborhoods; and (c) foster public-private partnerships to engage and leverage the innovation and entrepreneurship of business, community organizations, and civic leaders.

March 20, 2012: Letter to the Federal Communications Commission

We will follow up this correspondence to again request meetings with you to explore the opportunities for developing a partnership between the FCC and California. We appreciate the beginning of a conversation with the Chairman's Chief of Staff Zachary Katz in January when he was in California. And, we welcome the opportunity to continue the dialogue with you to join forces to implement the National Broadband Plan.

Sincerely,



Michael R. Peevey  
Chairman  
President, California Public Utilities Commission  
Chairman, California Broadband Council



Sunne Wright McPeak  
President and CEO

C: California Congressional Delegation  
Mr. Lawrence E, Strickling,  
U.S. Department of Commerce, Assistant Secretary,  
National Telecommunications and Information Administration