



Commonwealth of Kentucky
Finance and Administration Cabinet
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Steven L. Beshear
Governor

Jonathan Miller
Secretary

April 13, 2009

Broadband Technology Opportunities
Program, U.S. Department of Commerce,
Room 4812, 1401 Constitution Avenue,
NW., Washington, DC 20230.

On behalf of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, and Governor Steve Beshear, the Finance Administration Cabinet and Commonwealth Office of Technology submit the attached comments in response to a federal request for information on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP), which was issued jointly by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) and the USDA's Rural Utilities Service (RUS).

We are eager for the opportunity to work alongside our federal counterparts in providing quality broadband service throughout our state. As part of our state's response to President Obama's call for swift and decisive action through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, we have attached a plan of action that will allow Kentucky to position itself as a national model. We have taken a number of innovative approaches to address some of the key concerns of providing broadband, and have sought to integrate our efforts in tandem with other areas covered by the ARRA. Our plan seeks to leverage stimulus dollars in an effort to create an ongoing "process" of economic development, rather than simply funding a series of "projects;" in so doing, we have combined elements of revolving loan funds, micro-lending, e-health and smart grid technology. We would be happy to discuss any of the attached items in further detail.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment, and we look forward to an ongoing relationship in the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Miller".

Jonathan Miller
Secretary