
From: JZ <jz@actionplan.coop>
Sent: Saturday, May 02, 2015 9:19 AM
To: BOCrfc2015
Subject: Fwd: Opportunity for Stakeholder Input on Broadband Access and Adoption

I'll start my submission with one word - coops.

The key to a holistic, democratic expansion of America's high-speed internet capacity is cooperatives. There is very little, if any, profit to be made from rural - or low-income urban - broadband. By setting up and supporting telecommunications cooperatives, the federal government will create self-sustaining enterprises that don't need to return profits for speculative shareholders. The cooperatives will thrive on existing business models like Norvado in northern Wisconsin. For urban settings, pilot programs like the one in Champaign, Illinois can also provide a model for national development.

Internet access is a right, not a privilege, which means it should be taken out of the hands of for-profit corporations. Technology allows us to deliver high speeds at low cost, so even those living in poverty can utilize the internet as a way to increase their personal and community wealth.

Sincerely,

Joe Zefran
Founding Member
Acton Plan Cooperative
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----- Forwarded message -----

From: <PublicEngagement@dot.gov>
Date: Fri, May 1, 2015 at 9:03 PM
Subject: Opportunity for Stakeholder Input on Broadband Access and Adoption
To:

Good afternoon,

The Broadband Opportunity Council (Council), the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) are requesting public comment to inform the deliberations of the Council. **Stakeholders have the opportunity to review the Federal Register Notice and submit written comments by e-mail to BOCrfc2015@ntia.doc.gov on or before 5 p.m. Eastern time on June 10, 2015.**

A summary of the Federal Register notice is below, and stakeholders can view the full Federal Register Notice at <https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2015/04/29/2015-09996/broadband-opportunity-council-notice-and-request-for-comment>.

Summary: “In furtherance of the Presidential Memorandum entitled Expanding Broadband Deployment and Adoption by Addressing Regulatory Barriers and Encouraging Investment and Training, which established the Broadband Opportunity Council (Council), the Rural Utilities Service (RUS) and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) are requesting public comment to inform the deliberations of the Council.1 The Council's objectives are to: (i) Engage with industry and other stakeholders to understand ways the government can better support the needs of communities seeking to expand broadband access and adoption; (ii) identify regulatory barriers unduly impeding broadband deployment, adoption, or competition; (iii) survey and report back on existing programs that currently support or could be modified to support broadband competition, deployment, or adoption; and (iv) take all necessary actions to remove these barriers and realign existing programs to increase broadband competition, deployment, and adoption.2 We welcome input from all interested parties, including the stakeholder groups identified in the Presidential Memorandum.”

Thank you,

USDOT Public Engagement Team