
Broadband Coalition of Northern California Counties

Date: July 22, 2013

To: Broadband Coalition of Northern California Counties

Subject: Support letter template: Substandard broadband damages our economy

From: Jim Moorehead and Mike Nicholls

The inaugural meeting of the Broadband Coalition of Northern California Counties, held by conference call on Thursday, 07/11/13, was very productive. Please let us know if you've yet to receive the notes. And everyone, please join us for our next meeting – we'll announce details soon.

At the July meeting, the Coalition agreed to start drafting and distributing support letter and resolution templates. Please find attached a support letter template for the statement that:

Substandard broadband service in Northern California damages the regional economy.

We've attached a template you can use to create custom letters supporting this position. Please customize the letter with your name, title and contact information, and any other points you would like to incorporate into the body of the letter. Then, print it on letter head with your signature, and return to us via email at AdminCoordinatingator@MendocinoBroadband.org.

Due to pending events in the state legislature, and the California Public Utilities Commission, **please send your letters of support promptly**, as we'd like to deliver all Coalition responses to the Commission and legislative committees by Monday, July 29.

If you can't get us a response that fast, please send it when you can.

Feel free contact us for assistance at AdminCoordinator@MendocinoBroadband.org, or visit our web site at www.MendocinoBroadband.org.

Sincerely,

Jim Moorehead, Executive Committee Chair, Broadband Alliance of Mendocino County.
Mike Nicholls, Co-Chair Access Sonoma Broadband

Sign-ons:

Mendocino County Supervisor Dan Hamburg, 5th District
Sonoma County Supervisor Mike McGuire, 4th District

<Your letterhead>

Date: July 22, 2013

To: California Public Utilities Commission commissioners
California State Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee members
California State Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee members

Subject: Persistent digital divide - Substandard broadband service in Northern California damages the regional economy

From: <Your name, title, and affiliation>

Dear Commissioner/Committee Member,

United with the other participants in the Broadband Coalition of Northern California Counties, <I/we> respectfully wish to make it clear to you that rural California has a persistent digital divide, and that substandard broadband service in Northern California seriously damages the region's economy.

Without remedy, this critical problem will continue to worsen, freezing a permanent digital divide into Northern California, depriving our children of quality education, endangering residents and visitors due to inadequate public safety, reducing our property values, and driving away the businesses we need to survive.

<Provide your own county examples>

When making decisions that affect rural broadband policy, we urge you to carefully consider the plight of rural Californians, whose lives and businesses are suffering due to substandard broadband service.

Sincerely,

<Your name, title, affiliation, and signature>