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California State Senate

SENATOR
NOREEN EVANS
SECOND SENATE DISTRICT



October 29, 2012

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Michael Amato, Interim Director
California Advanced Services Fund (CASF)
California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC)
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102-3298

Dear Director Amato:

I write in support of the application of Golden Bear Broadband LLC (GBB) for a broadband infrastructure grant for their Northern California Regional Middle Mile Infrastructure (NCRMMI) Project. This project will provide vitally needed broadband infrastructure across sixteen rural northern California counties, including Sonoma, Mendocino, Lake, Humboldt, Trinity and Del Norte Counties, all part of my current and redrawn Second Senate District.

Broadband connectivity is absolutely essential for these rural areas to be able to participate, let alone compete, in today's high-speed access world – in everything from education, healthcare and emergency services, to agriculture and hospitality which are the cornerstones of our local economy. The California Advanced Services Fund (CASF) was created to close the Digital Divide and expand broadband access to just such geographically underserved and unserved areas as those which NCRMMI will reach.

I strongly support GBB's NCRMMI application for CASF infrastructure deployment funds and urge the California Public Utilities Commission to approve GBB's application and grant this vital project your full support.

If I can provide any further information, please contact Elizabeth McCarthy at my Santa Rosa District Office, at (707) 576-2771. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Noreen Evans".

NOREEN EVANS
Senator, 2nd District

cc: ✓ Steven Sharpe, Sonoma County Economic Development Board
Michael Nicholls, Sonoma Connect