



STATE OF ARKANSAS
MIKE BEEBE
GOVERNOR

May 3, 2010

Larry E. Strickling, Jr.
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information
United States Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide input for the overall prioritization of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act's Round Two broadband efforts for the State of Arkansas. Our approach to this process is to focus on Arkansas-based endeavors, which we believe will provide the most impact on broadband in our State.

I highly recommend the following projects:

- Connect Arkansas, Inc.; Application ID: 6351
- University of Arkansas System; Application ID: 4493
- Arkansas Department of Information Systems; Application ID: 7184

I also recommend the following projects:

- Arkansas State Library; Application ID: 7130
- Mid-South Community College; Application ID: 6575
- City of Fayetteville; Application ID: 6515

Arkansas is collaborating across all ARRA grants and Notices of Funding Availability grants, and is utilizing the Commerce Department's National Telecommunication and Information Administration (NTIA) broadband initiatives as our cornerstone. Arkansas is working with other national programs, including the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

We appreciate your support of Arkansas's broadband initiatives. For more information, contact Frank Scott, frank.scott@governor.arkansas.gov, at 501-683-6462.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "MB", written over a horizontal line.

Mike Beebe

MB:jb