

Hoopa Valley Tribal Council

Hoopa Valley Tribe

P.O. Box 1348 ~ Hoopa, California 95546 ~ Phone (530) 625-4211 ~ Fax (530) 625-4594



Leonard E. Masten Jr.
Chairman

March 22, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Ave., NW
Washington, D.C. 20230-0002

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

On behalf of the Hoopa Valley Tribe, I am writing to indicate the Tribe's support for the Humboldt Community Access Network (Humboldt CAN) broadband project.

The Hoopa reservation is dramatically underserved with respect to both middle mile and last mile broadband infrastructure. The Tribe has invested enormous resources and time over the past year to attempt to develop cutting edge plans for bridging that gap – and for ensuring that we do so in a self-sufficient way that gives our members a true stake in the infrastructure and services.

Hoopa's community anchor institutions have a critical need for access to expanded middle-mile infrastructure; the connectivity promised by Humboldt CAN will help us achieve our core mission of providing a variety of educational, job training, and public safety services to our tribal members. In addition, we also have a strong interest in purchasing backhaul capacity on the network to support last-mile service that we envision providing to local residents and businesses in our underserved community.

If Humboldt CAN is funded, the scope of our intended partnership would include siting appropriate microwave hardware on our tribal land, sufficient to serve our anchor institutions and backhaul our last mile wireless system, and taking ownership of that hardware.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this important project. Please feel free to contact me with any questions about our commitment.

Sincerely,

Leonard Masten, Chairman
Hoopa Valley Tribe