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Congress of the United States
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March 24, 2010

Anthony G. Wilhem, Director
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program
National Telecommunications and Information Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
HCHB, Room 4812
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Director Wilhem:

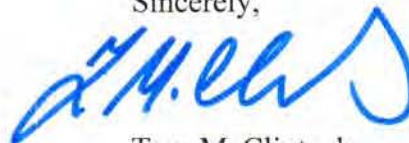
I am writing to endorse and support the application of Nevada County Connected (NCC), a community coalition in my district, for the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. The grant application seeks funding authorized within the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) to install wireless broadband infrastructure in Nevada County, California, in order to facilitate the provision of high speed Internet service to the area.

My support for this project should in no way be interpreted as an endorsement of ARRA, which I believe was one of the most ill-advised acts ever passed by the Congress. Inasmuch as ARRA must remove one dollar out of the economy for every dollar it puts back into the economy, there is no stimulus effect from its spending. Unfortunately, Congress has decided differently. An average family of four in my district will end up paying \$9,000 of future taxes to support this program, and the question now becomes one of equitable distribution of those funds.

From that standpoint, I believe that NCC's grant request is highly competitive on its merits. The proposal to provide high-speed data connectivity for this predominantly rural area will ensure that tangible and useful broadband infrastructure will exist as a result of these funds.

California Public Utilities Commission has already approved 10% matching funds for this project and an additional 20% is being raised by the Nevada County Economic Resource Council. I support NCC's application for BTOP funding and appreciate your consideration of its application.

Sincerely,



Tom McClintock