Senator Lyman F. Hoffman

Senate Finance Member

Alaska State Legislature * State Capitol * Juneau, AK 99801-1182
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[redacted]

District S
Adak
Akiachak
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Akutan
Aleknagik
Aniak
Anvik
Atka
Atmautluak
Attu Station
Bethel
Chefornak
Chignik
Chignik Lagoon
Chignik Lake
Chuathbaluk
Clark's Point
Cold Bay
Crooked Creek
Dillingham
Dutch Harbor
Eek
Egegik
Ekwok
False Pass
Flat
Goodnews Bay
Grayling
Holy Cross
Igiugig
Iliamna
Ivanof Bay
Kasigluk
King Cove
King Salmon
Kipnuk
Kokhanok
Koliganek
Kongiganak
Kwethluk
Kwigillingok
Lake Minchumina
Levelock
Lime Village
Lower Kalskag
Manokotak
Marshall
McGrath
Mekoryuk
Mertarvik
Naknek
Napakiak
Napaskiak
Nelson Lagoon
Newhalen
New Stuyahok
Newtok
Nightmute
Nikolai
Nikolski
Nondalton
Nunapitchuk
Oscarville
Pedro Bay
Perryville
Pilot Point
Platinum
Pope-Vannoy Landing
Port Alsworth
Port Heiden
Portage Creek
Quinhagak
Red Devil
Russian Mission
Saint George Island
Saint Paul Island
Sand Point
Shageluk
Sleetmute
South Naknek
Stony River
Takotna
Togiak
Toksook Bay
Tuluksak
Tununak
Twin Hills
Ugashik
Unalaska
Upper Kalskag

August 24, 2022

Mr. Alan Davidson
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information and NTIA Administrator
National Telecommunications & Information Administration (NTIA)
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, D.C. 20230

Re: Support for Quintillion's Nome to Homer Express Route Grant Application

Dear Assistant Secretary Davidson,

As a State legislator whose district will be directly affected, I write to you in support of Quintillion's proposed Nome to Homer Express Route middle mile project. The State of Alaska is home to the most remote, rugged, and culturally diverse geographic areas in the United States and faces unique challenges due to the geography, topology, weather, lack of contiguous roads, transportation, accommodations in towns, and demographics ranking at the bottom for Internet connectivity compared to the rest of the nation. The global pandemic has further aggravated these circumstances and driven Alaska's residents and institutions to be even more dependent on good connectivity.

Quintillion's proposed project will provide important fiber optic infrastructure to communities in my district with a diverse, resilient, low latency, competitive pathway to U.S. and global interconnectivity and cloud services. This will enable the connection of important anchor institutions such as schools, libraries, and hospitals and deployment of last mile service by local Internet Service Provider (ISP) partners to government, institutions, businesses, households, and visitors, supporting important community benefits, such as distance education, telehealth, economic development, and public safety communications. I am enthusiastic about the potential for improved broadband service in my district that robust, new middle mile backhaul will bring.

I urge NTIA to fund this worthy project to benefit Alaska's currently unserved and underserved, disadvantaged, and isolated communities so they may realize sufficient middle mile capacity to enable ubiquitous high-speed connectivity.

Thank you for your consideration and support,

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