



NATIVE VILLAGE OF EKLUTNA

Ian Martinez
United States Department of Commerce
National Telecommunications and
Information Administration
Washington, D.C. 20230

12 April 2010

RE: US DOC Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) Project Priority list for Native Village of Eklutna

Dear Mr. Martinez

We are responding to a letter received by the Native Village of Eklutna on 5 April 2010 regarding the United States Department of Commerce National Telecommunications and Information Administration responsibility for implementing the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program, signed by Mr. Lawrence E. Strickling. The following projects are listed from our highest to lowest priorities

Easy Grant ID #: 4468 Native Broadband – Bringing Remote and Tribal Community Institutions Up to Speed

This Project is our Highest Priority for the Native Village of Eklutna. This project will assist the Federally Recognized Alaska Native Villages greater communications and collaborations over the internet. Even though the Native Village of Eklutna is 25 miles from the largest city in Alaska, the Village is overlooked when it comes to upgrading our systems and continues to receive internet services at slower speeds than is readily available to the local community.

Easy Grant ID #: 4589 United States Unified Community Anchor Network (U.S. UCAN)

This Project is a High Priority for the Native Village of Eklutna. It will assist us in developing our Tribal Health Clinic and open other areas of Clinical diagnosis that will further assist our Tribal Citizens. The Native Village Eklutna is located 25 miles North of Anchorage, Alaska and the project may provide the Tribe and Citizens a greater internet bandwidth for telemedicine applications.

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Mobile Broadband Health Platform

This is a project of medium priority and we give our support. We live in an area prone to Earthquakes and find it necessary to have reliable communication should a natural disaster occur. Even though we are 25 miles north of the largest city in Alaska, we can be cut off from supplies, medical needs and communications.

Easy Grant ID #: 6095 NetLifeTV

This project is a low priority. Although it will allow Tribal Citizens access cable television to stay updated on national and local affairs that may affect them. Additionally, this may affect the internet bandwidth provided to our semi-rural community. The Native Village Eklutna is located 25 miles North of Anchorage, Alaska and will our Tribal Citizens will benefit from increased access to cable television and potentially a greater internet bandwidth for internet access applications.

We thank you for allowing us an opportunity to rank these projects, that will affect our Alaska Native Tribal Government and Citizens. We encourage the Department of Commerce to fund the Projects that have a direct benefit to Alaska Native Tribal Communities due to their vast distance apart and isolation from other areas in Alaska. The need for advanced communication is greatly needed throughout all of the Tribal Communities.

Sincerely,



David Harrison
Tribal Administrator