

Louisiana Broadband Alliance - Infrastructure Project

Supplemental Information 1

Application Support Letters

**RODNEY ALEXANDER**  
5TH DISTRICT, LOUISIANA

**WASHINGTON**  
316 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
(202) 225-8490  
FAX: (202) 225-5639



COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS  
SUBCOMMITTEES:  
AGRICULTURE  
FINANCIAL SERVICES  
COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**

August 19, 2009

Lawrence E. Strickling  
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 Mr. Strickling:

Residents of Louisiana rank in the bottom 20% of internet connectivity, putting our citizens at a distinct disadvantage in competing and advancing in the information age. Our students struggle against poverty to gain the education they need to succeed. This is why I support the work of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program grant proposal.

The grant will fund the acquisition of video conferencing, multimedia and broadband related equipment to provide workforce development, continuing education, and outreach services through web-based resources at schools and community centers. It will also fund the creation of educational and instructional content that addresses the curriculum needs of pre-school through college students, as well as the workforce, professional development and continuing education needs of the community. It will make possible the creation of a content delivery service that will allow for storage and distribution of educational and instructional content to community anchor institutions and broadband distribution to the community at large.

A key element of this proposal is the partnership among several State of Louisiana agencies working together on behalf of the citizens to meet the broadband initiatives contained in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

It is my pleasure to support this proposal and hope you will view it favorably as well.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Rodney Alexander in black ink.  
Rodney Alexander  
Member of Congress

**ALEXANDRIA**  
1412 CENTRE COURT, SUITE 402  
ALEXANDRIA, LA 71301  
(318) 445-0818  
FAX: (318) 445-3776

**MONROE**  
1900 STUBBS AVENUE, SUITE B  
MONROE, LA 71201  
(318) 322-3500  
FAX: (318) 322-3577

CHARLIE MELANCON  
3RD DISTRICT, LOUISIANA



WASHINGTON OFFICE:  
404 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
(202) 225-4031

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY  
AND COMMERCE  
COMMITTEE ON  
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

DISTRICT OFFICES:  
8201 WEST JUDGE PEREZ DRIVE  
CHALMETTE, LA 70043  
(504) 271-1707  
828 SOUTH IRMA BLVD., SUITE 107  
GONZALES, LA 70737  
(225) 621-8490  
423 LAFAYETTE STREET, SUITE 107  
HOUMA, LA 70360  
(985) 876-3033  
124 EAST MAIN STREET  
SUITE 220-A  
NEW IBERIA, LA 70560  
(337) 367-8231

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

August 14, 2009

Lawrence E. Strickling  
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 Mr. Strickling:

Residents of Louisiana rank in the bottom 20% of internet connectivity, putting our citizens at a distinct disadvantage in competing and advancing in the information age. Our students struggle against poverty to gain the education they need to succeed. This is why I support the work of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program grant proposal.

The grant will fund the acquisition of video conferencing, multimedia and broadband related equipment to provide workforce development, continuing education, and outreach services through web-based resources at schools and community centers. It will also fund the creation of educational and instructional content that addresses the curriculum needs of pre-school through college student as well as the workforce, professional development and continuing education needs of the community. It will make possible the creation of a content delivery service that will allow for storage and distribution of educational and instructional content to community anchor institutions and broadband distribution to the community at large.

A key element of this proposal is the partnership among several State of Louisiana agencies working together on behalf of the citizens to meet the broadband initiatives contained in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

It is my pleasure to support this proposal and hope you will view it favorably as well.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charlie Melancon".

Charlie Melancon  
Member of Congress



AT&T Business Solutions  
Government/Education  
7884 Office Park Blvd.  
Suite 200  
Baton Rouge, LA 70809

T: 225-930-7705  
F: 225-930-7873  
www.att.com

August 12, 2009

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Mr. Strickling,

AT&T is pleased to provide Louisiana Broadband Alliance (LBA) vendor support. We will be happy to provide information pertaining to AT&T that may help you prepare a proposal as described in the Broadband Technologies Opportunity Program and Rural Utilities Service Notice of Funding Availability.

Through the effective use of technology, LBA will be able to support multiple economic development efforts related to workforce development, continuing education in the community, as well as enhance learning opportunities for Pre-K - 20 students in the State of Louisiana. AT&T has knowledge of industry best practices and has proven expertise in technologies such as video conferencing, web-based collaboration tools, content hosting, and industry-recognized service and support for tele-learning and telemedicine.

AT&T would also like to support LBA's broadband deployment efforts by providing the necessary connectivity to your community anchor institutions. To further support your Broadband Adoption efforts, AT&T proudly offers our broad suite of mobility products and services, including mobility-enabled Netbooks, which could be used within the community centers, in the schools and in the homes. Students and citizens using these mobile assets will be able to gain access to instructional content and curriculum offered by the State of Louisiana or any other source deemed appropriate.

We will be happy to provide any information we can reasonably provide, subject to proprietary and confidentiality restrictions. AT&T recognizes that the use of any stimulus monies that you receive will be at your discretion, subject to any legal and regulatory requirements that may apply to you. In rendering the assistance you have requested, AT&T has no expectation that it will receive favorable treatment in connection with LBA spending decisions.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Debbie B. Griffith".

Debbie B. Griffith  
Regional Vice-President



August 13, 2009

Mr. Lawrence E. Strickling  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20230

**Re: Rural Utilities Services  
Broadband Infrastructure Program  
and  
National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program**

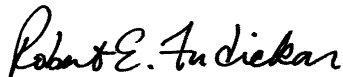
**“Louisiana Broadband Alliance – Infrastructure, Sustainable Broadband Adoption and  
Public Computer Center Applications”**

Dear Mr. Strickling:

Louisiana Broadband Alliance (LBA) is seeking funds to create a new pipeline, and add to the existing LONI fiber pipeline for the next-generation of content delivery and workforce training in the Louisiana Delta. I am writing today to express my support for the LBA grant application to the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Telecommunications and Information Administration and the Department of Agriculture's Rural Utilities Services.

I have a great interest in this topic because of the mission of the Louisiana Economic Development, and the many possibilities that come along with this project. This grant goes hand-in-hand with what we are trying to accomplish through technology. Many of the private technology companies that work with LED, including AT&T, are also supportive of the LBA project.

Sincerely,



Robert E. Fudickar  
Louisiana Economic Development  
Director, Technology Industry

Dr. Chiao  
Page 2  
August 12, 2009



## LOUISIANA PUBLIC BROADCASTING

7733 Perkins Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70810 • (225) 767-5660 • www.lpb.org

August 18, 2009

Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Mr. Strickling,

The Louisiana Educational Television Authority (LETA) was created by Act 13 of the 1971 Louisiana Legislature to provide the benefits of Public Broadcasting to the people of Louisiana. LETA has a longstanding tradition of providing programming that educates, enlightens and informs, and as technology changes we have adapted our production techniques to include the use of innovative technologies.

LETA joined with the Louisiana Department of Education in the formation of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance (LBA) to improve education and the quality of life through the use of broadband technology. As part of that mission we seek NTIA funding assistance under the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program in both a Public Computer Centers application as well as a Sustainable Broadband Adoption application. Through the effective use of broadband technology, LBA will be able to support multiple economic development efforts related to workforce development, continuing education in the community, as well as enhance learning opportunities for PreK-20 students in the State of Louisiana. LETA is proud to be a founding member of the LBA and we encourage you to support our projects.

Respectfully,

Beth Courtney  
President and CEO  
Louisiana Educational Television Authority



# LOUISIANA HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION

JOHN A. MATESSINO  
PRESIDENT & CEO

9521 BROOKLINE AVENUE ✕ BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70809-1431  
(225) 928-0026 ✕ FAX (225) 923-1004 ✕ [www.lhaonline.org](http://www.lhaonline.org)

August 17, 2009

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Herbert C. Hoover Building (HCHB)  
U.S. Department of Commerce / NTIA  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Mr. Strickling:

The Louisiana Hospital Association (LHA) is pleased to support the Louisiana Broadband Alliance's (LBA) application for the Sustainable Broadband Adoption portion of the BTOP funding. Approval of this application will enable rural providers to deliver much needed healthcare services to a significant number of uninsured and underserved Louisianans as well as access to vital continuing education materials. This funding, together with other community resources, is critical to facilitate the use of telemedicine in the included parishes and actively works to leverage previous state and federal funding resources that have contributed to broadband adoption success stories throughout Louisiana.

LHA will continue to provide technical assistance, information related to federal and state health policies, health care data sources and strategic guidance to the Louisiana Broadband Alliance, as well as the hospitals of Louisiana. Collectively, the affiliation between LHA and LBA will continually strive to improve services that offer beneficial solutions to the residents Louisiana.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Bradley, MBA  
Director, Rural Health Programs  
Louisiana Hospital Association  
9521 Brookline Ave  
Baton Rouge, LA 70809  
(225)928-0026



August 13, 2009

Louisiana Broadband Alliance



Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am pleased to support to your proposal to engage disadvantaged agricultural producers within the Louisiana Delta Initiative (LDI) twelve parish region to provide access to computer equipment and technical assistance. I understand that the program will introduce small and disadvantaged businesses and organizations like Parishes for Farm Prosperity to the LA ePortal where LBA will provide educational products on subjects such as marketing that will benefit agricultural producers.

As an Extension Agent working with small farmers and community development for 15 years, I am excited that this proposal affords us an opportunity to create enhanced learning experiences on how to use broadband technology to improve their operations and boost profits. It will blend closely with our efforts to implement a comprehensive educational rural development program.

Socially and economically disadvantaged producers and businesses in the Louisiana Delta region need all of the educational opportunities and technical assistance our organization and others can provide to be competitive in this fast-paced ever-changing business climate.

The Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center and the LSU AgCenter's working relationship has been a winning formula for providing high quality relevant educational programs to the agricultural industry of Louisiana. I look forward to continued progress, as we implement this ambitious project.

Sincerely yours,

Glenn E. Dixon  
Associate Area Agent  
East/West Carroll Parish  
502 First Street  
Lake Providence, LA 71254

318 559-0060 East Carroll  
318 428-3571 West Carroll  
318 559-3125 Fax  
<http://www.suagcenter.com>  
[http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/our\\_offices/parishes/East+Carroll](http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/our_offices/parishes/East+Carroll)



**East Carroll Parish**  
502 First Street  
Lake Providence, Louisiana 71254  
(318)559-1459  
(318)559-0060  
Fax: (318)559-3125  
Visit our Web sites:  
[www.lsuagcenter.com](http://www.lsuagcenter.com)  
[www.suagcenter.com](http://www.suagcenter.com)

**Research and Extension Programs**  
Agriculture  
Economic/Community Development  
Environment/Natural Resources  
Families/Nutrition/Health  
4-H Youth Programs



3033-B Ray Weiland Drive, Baker, Louisiana 70714  
P.O. Box 680, Baker, Louisiana 70704-0680  
Phone (225) 774-5795, Fax (225) 774-5797

**CITY OF BAKER SCHOOL SYSTEM**

[www.bakerschools.org](http://www.bakerschools.org)

*Dr. Estes Taplin, Superintendent*

January 29, 2010

Board Members

*Pam Malveaux*  
District 1

Dear Mr. Strickling:

*Dana Carpenter,*  
Ph.D.  
District 2

*George Gallman*  
Vice President  
District 3

*Jane Freudenberger*  
District 4

*Doris Alexander*  
President  
District 5

The City of Baker School District wholeheartedly supports the Louisiana Broadband Alliance (LBA) - Infrastructure Project (Easy grants ID: 2239) application submitted in response to the Federal Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. With approval of this application, Louisiana and our school district will have the ability to access a broad array of 21<sup>st</sup> century educational tools and resources, provide global learning opportunities and better prepare our students to compete aggressively in the global marketplace.

If funded, The City of Baker School District anticipates utilizing the LONI broadband infrastructure at data rates as high as 1000 Gbps. This would provide our district with unparalleled access to the National LambdaRail, the Louisiana State University System, the Louisiana Community and Technical College System, the Louisiana Department of Education, Louisiana Public Broadcasting and other national resources.

Without any reservation, I strongly support and urge you to fund this grant request by NTIA.

Regards,

Everett G. Parker  
Supervisor, Information Management  
& Educational Technology

# *Lincoln Parish School Board*

*410 S. Farmerville St.*

*Ruston, LA 71270*

*Voice 318-255-1430 Fax 318-255-3203*

*Otha L. Anders  
President*

*Danny L. Bell  
Superintendent*

January 28, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Herbert C. Hoover Building (HCHB)  
U.S. Department of Commerce / NTIA  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Mr. Strickling:

I am pleased to support the Louisiana Broadband Alliance (LBA) - Infrastructure Project (Easy grants ID: 2239) application submitted in response to the Federal Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. With approval of this application, Louisiana and our school district will be able to have access to 21<sup>st</sup> century educational tools and resources, provide global learning opportunities and better prepare our students to compete in the global marketplace.

Without this funding our district would not have access to this level of fiber infrastructure at reasonable rates which would make broadband affordable for both our school system and our student population.

I strongly urge you to fund this grant request in order to better our schools, our students, our state and our nation.

Sincerely,



Wanda Mitchell  
Lincoln Parish School Board



# *Lincoln Parish School Board*

*410 S. Farmerville St.*

*Ruston, LA 71270*

*Voice 318-255-1430 Fax 318-255-3203*

*Otha L. Anders  
President*

*Danny L. Bell  
Superintendent*

January 28, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Herbert C. Hoover Building (HCHB)  
U.S. Department of Commerce / NTIA  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Mr. Strickling:

I am pleased to support the Louisiana Broadband Alliance (LBA) - Infrastructure Project (Easy grants ID: 2239) application submitted in response to the Federal Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. With approval of this application, Louisiana and our school district will be able to have access to 21<sup>st</sup> century educational tools and resources, provide global learning opportunities and better prepare our students to compete in the global marketplace.

Without this funding our district would not have access to this level of fiber infrastructure at reasonable rates which would make broadband affordable for both our school system and our student population.

I strongly urge you to fund this grant request in order to better our schools, our students, our state and our nation.

Sincerely,



Debbie Pender  
Lincoln Parish School Board

**CENTRAL COMMUNITY**  
*School System*



13421 Hooper Road, Suite 6 • Post Office Box 78094  
Baton Rouge, La 70837 • 225-262-1919  
[www.centralcsd.org](http://www.centralcsd.org)

January 28, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Herbert C. Hoover Building (HCHB)  
U.S. Department of Commerce / NTIA  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Mr. Strickling:

Central Community School System supports the Louisiana Broadband Alliance (LBA) - Infrastructure Project (Easy grants ID: 2239) application submitted in response to the Federal Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. With approval of this application, Louisiana and our school district will have access to 21<sup>st</sup> century educational tools and resources, provide global learning opportunities, and better prepare our students to compete in the global workplace.

If funded, Central Community School System, will utilize the LONI broadband infrastructure at data rates as high as 1000 Gbps to provide our district with unprecedented access to the National LambdaRail, the Louisiana State University System, the Louisiana Community and Technical College System, the Louisiana Department of Education, Louisiana Public Broadcasting and other K-12 educational resources.

I strongly urge and wholeheartedly support the funding of this grant request by NTIA.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Diane Malison". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Diane Malison, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, Accountability  
Central Community School System  
13421 Hooper Road, Suite 6  
City of Central, La 70818



**WEST FELICIANA PARISH**  
*Schools*

Dedicated to Excellence • Anchored in Success • Connected to the World

January 29, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Herbert C. Hoover Building (HCHB)  
U.S. Department of Commerce / NTIA  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Mr. Strickling:

West Feliciana Parish is pleased to support the Louisiana Broadband Alliance (LBA) - Infrastructure Project (Easy grants ID: 2239) application submitted in response to the Federal Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. With approval of this application, Louisiana and our school district will be able to have access to 21<sup>st</sup> century educational tools and resources, provide global learning opportunities and better prepare our students to compete in the global marketplace.

Without this funding our district would not have access to this level of fiber infrastructure at reasonable rates which would make broadband affordable for both our school system and our student population.

I strongly urge you to fund this grant request in order to better our schools, our students, our state and our nation.

Sincerely,

Jerome Matherne  
Technology Supervisor

JM:jrh

## WASHINGTON PARISH SCHOOL SYSTEM

P.O. BOX 587  
FRANKLINTON, LOUISIANA 70438  
(985) 839-3436 FAX # (985) 839-5464

January 29, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Herbert C. Hoover Building (HCHB)  
U.S. Department of Commerce / NTIA  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Mr. Strickling:

Washington Parish School System is pleased to support the Louisiana Broadband Alliance (LBA) - Infrastructure Project (Easy grants ID: 2239) application submitted in response to the Federal Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. With approval of this application, Louisiana and our school district will be able to have access to 21<sup>st</sup> century educational tools and resources, provide global learning opportunities and better prepare our students to compete in the global marketplace.

Without this funding our district would not have access to this level of fiber infrastructure at reasonable rates which would make broadband affordable for both our school system and our student population.

I strongly urge you to fund this grant request in order to better our schools, our students, our state and our nation.

Sincerely,



Darrell Fairburn  
Superintendent



*Randy Schexnayder*  
Superintendent

*Robert Rizzuto*  
Assistant Superintendent  
Curriculum and Instruction

*Charlotte Waguespack*  
Assistant Superintendent  
Personnel

## **VERMILION PARISH SCHOOLS**

*220 South Jefferson Street*  
*P.O. Drawer 520*  
*Abbeville, Louisiana 70511-0520*  
*Phone (337) 898-5770*

*January 28, 2010*

### **Board Members:**

*Bill Searle*  
District A  
*Angela Faulk*  
District B  
*Dexter J. Callahan.*  
District C  
*Ricky LeBouef*  
District D  
*Anthony Fontana*  
District E  
*Charles Campbell*  
District F  
*Chris Mayard*  
District G  
*Ricky J. Broussard*  
District H

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Herbert C. Hoover Building (HCHB)  
U.S. Department of Commerce / NTIA  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Mr. Strickling:

The Vermilion Parish public school technology department is pleased to support the Louisiana Broadband Alliance (LBA) - Infrastructure Project (Easy grants ID: 2239) application submitted in response to the Federal Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. With approval of this application, Louisiana and our school district will be able to access a broad array of 21<sup>st</sup> century educational tools and resources, provide global learning opportunities and better prepare our students to compete in the global marketplace.

If funded, Vermilion Parish anticipates utilizing the LONI broadband infrastructure at data rates as high as 1000 Gbps. This would provide our district with unprecedented access to the National LambdaRail, the Louisiana State University System, the Louisiana Community and Technical College System, the Louisiana Department of Education, Louisiana Public Broadcasting and other national resources.

I strongly urge and wholeheartedly support the funding of this grant request by NTIA.

Sincerely,

Jude Dubois  
Supervisor of Classroom Technology  
Vermilion Parish School District



# TANGIPAHOA PARISH SCHOOL SYSTEM

TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT  
C. M. FAGAN SPECIAL SERVICE CENTER  
47439 NORTH OAK STREET  
HAMMOND, LOUISIANA 70401

TELEPHONE: (985) 345-1181 ■ FAX # (985) 419-1389

MARK KOLWE  
*Superintendent*

VICKI BLACKWELL  
*Director of Technology*

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Herbert C. Hoover Building (HCHB)  
U.S. Department of Commerce / NTIA  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Mr. Strickling:

Tangipahoa Parish School System is pleased to support the Louisiana Broadband Alliance (LBA) - Infrastructure Project (Easy grants ID: 2239) application submitted in response to the Federal Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. With approval of this application, Louisiana and our school district will be able to have access to 21<sup>st</sup> century educational tools and resources, provide global learning opportunities and better prepare our students to compete in the global marketplace.

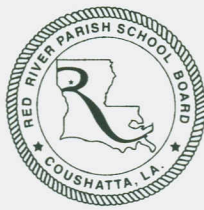
Without this funding our district would not have access to this level of fiber infrastructure at reasonable rates which would make broadband affordable for both our school system and our student population.

I strongly urge you to fund this grant request in order to better our schools, our students, our state and our nation.

Sincerely,

Vicki Blackwell  
Director of Technology  
Tangipahoa Parish Schools  
[vickib@tangischools.org](mailto:vickib@tangischools.org)





*Red River Parish School Board*

*P. O. Box 1369*

*Coushatta, Louisiana 71019*

*Kay J. Easley*  
*Superintendent*

*Gene Longino*  
*Board President*

January 29, 2010

Gene Longino - President  
Rt. 3, Box 316  
Coushatta, LA 71019  
District 1

Richard Cannon - Vice President  
P.O. Box 1269  
Coushatta, LA 71019  
District 2

Karen Womack  
Rt. 3, Box 529  
Ringgold, LA 71068  
District 3

Cleve Miller  
P.O. Box 1097  
Coushatta, LA 71019  
District 4

Kasandria W. White  
P.O. Box 1224  
Coushatta, LA 71019  
District 5

Valerie Cox  
P.O. Box 1292  
Coushatta, LA 71019  
District 6

J. B. McElwee  
905 Maple Street  
Coushatta, LA 71019  
District 7

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Herbert C. Hoover Building (HCHB)  
U.S. Department of Commerce / NTIA  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Mr. Strickling:

Red River is pleased to support the Louisiana Broadband Alliance (LBA) - Infrastructure Project (Easy grants ID: 2239) application submitted in response to the Federal Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. With approval of this application, Louisiana and our school district will be able to access a broad array of 21<sup>st</sup> century educational tools and resources, provide global learning opportunities and better prepare our students to compete in the global marketplace.

If funded, Red River, anticipates utilizing the LONI broadband infrastructure at data rates as high as 1000 Gbps. This would provide our district with unprecedented access to the National LambdaRail, the Louisiana State University System, the Louisiana Community and Technical College System, the Louisiana Department of Education, Louisiana Public Broadcasting and other national resources.

I strongly urge and wholeheartedly support the funding of this grant request by NTIA.

Sincerely,

J. Carey Prosperie II  
Technology Coordinator





---

2904 Evangeline Street Monroe LA 71201  
Phone: 318.340.0750 FAX: 318.340.0580  
<http://www.nexussystems.net>

January 27, 2010

Dr. Sally Clausen  
Commissioner of Higher Education  
1201 N. Third Street, Suite 6-200  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802.

Dear Dr. Clausen:

This letter is in reference to the “Federal Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program in the formation and implementation of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance - Infrastructure Project (Easygrants ID: 2239)” application submitted by the Board of Regents for Round 1 funding.

Nexus Systems has applied for similar funding, but we know our users would wish us to collaborate with the Board of Regents if that proposal is being considered for funding. The 12 Parish “River Region” we support provided over 40 letters of support from anchor institutions requesting funding for acquiring a fiber network to enhance communications across a wide spectrum of users.

We are including the Attachment of support letters sent with the Nexus application as evidence of the need expressed by agencies and anchor groups in Northeast Louisiana. As noted in the Attachment, there were many others who pledged support, but were not able to respond simply due to time constants.

Please forward these letters as evidence of the need to have the fiber project funded for Northeast Louisiana. We look forward to working together with the Board of Regents if this project is funded. If the Nexus Systems project is funded, we pledge to extend every accommodation to meet the needs of the Board of Regents.

Thank you for allowing us and our customers to support and work with the Board of Regents.

Sincerely,  
*Mark Stevenson*

Mark Stevenson  
President, Nexus Systems, Inc  
msteve@nexussystems.net



---

2904 Evangeline Street Monroe LA 71201  
Phone: 318.340.0750 FAX: 318.340.0580  
<http://www.nexussystems.net>

January 27, 2010

Dr. Sally Clausen  
Commissioner of Higher Education  
1201 N. Third Street, Suite 6-200  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802.

Dear Dr. Clausen:

This letter is in reference to the “Federal Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program in the formation and implementation of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance - Infrastructure Project (Easygrants ID: 2239)” application submitted by the Board of Regents for Round 1 funding.

Nexus Systems has applied for similar funding, but we know our users would wish us to collaborate with the Board of Regents if that proposal is being considered for funding. The 12 Parish “River Region” we support provided over 40 letters of support from anchor institutions requesting funding for acquiring a fiber network to enhance communications across a wide spectrum of users.

We are including the Attachment of support letters sent with the Nexus application as evidence of the need expressed by agencies and anchor groups in Northeast Louisiana. As noted in the Attachment, there were many others who pledged support, but were not able to respond simply due to time constants.

Please forward these letters as evidence of the need to have the fiber project funded for Northeast Louisiana. We look forward to working together with the Board of Regents if this project is funded. If the Nexus Systems project is funded, we pledge to extend every accommodation to meet the needs of the Board of Regents.

Thank you for allowing us and our customers to support and work with the Board of Regents.

Sincerely,  
*Mark Stevenson*

Mark Stevenson  
President, Nexus Systems, Inc  
msteve@nexussystems.net

# MOREHOUSE PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

Post Office Box 872  
Bastrop, LA 71221-0872  
Telephone: (318) 281-5784  
Fax: (318) 283-3456

Tom Thrower, Superintendent

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Herbert C. Hoover Building (HCHB)  
U.S. Department of Commerce / NTIA  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Mr. Strickling:

Morehouse Parish Schools is pleased to support the Louisiana Broadband Alliance (LBA) - Infrastructure Project (Easy grants ID: 2239) application submitted in response to the Federal Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. With approval of this application, Louisiana and our school district will be able to have access to 21st century educational tools and resources, provide global learning opportunities and better prepare our students to compete in the global marketplace.

Without this funding our district would not have access to this level of fiber infrastructure at reasonable rates which would make broadband affordable for both our school system and our student population.

I strongly urge you to fund this grant request in order to better our schools, our students, our state and our nation.

Sincerely,



Kathy Blakeney  
Technology Facilitator



Instructional Technology  
Monroe City Schools  
1600 North 19<sup>th</sup> Street  
Monroe, Louisiana 71201  
Phone: 318-387-9759 Fax: 318-325-0962



January 28, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Herbert C. Hoover Building (HCHB)  
U.S. Department of Commerce / NTIA  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Mr. Strickling:

Monroe City Schools is pleased to support the Louisiana Broadband Alliance (LBA) - Infrastructure Project (Easy grants ID: 2239) application submitted in response to the Federal Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. With approval of this application, Louisiana and Monroe City Schools will be able to access a broad array of 21<sup>st</sup> century educational tools and resources, provide global learning opportunities and better prepare our students to compete in the global marketplace.

If funded, Monroe City Schools anticipates utilizing the LONI broadband infrastructure at data rates as high as 1000 Gbps. This would provide our district with unprecedented access to the National LambdaRail, the Louisiana State University System, the Louisiana Community and Technical College System, the Louisiana Department of Education, Louisiana Public Broadcasting and other national resources.

I strongly urge and wholeheartedly support the funding of this grant request by NTIA.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karla B. Bowlin".

Karla B. Bowlin  
Instructional Technology Supervisor



# LOUISIANA HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION

JOHN A. MATESSINO  
PRESIDENT & CEO

9521 BROOKLINE AVENUE ♦ BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70809-1431  
(225) 928-0026 ♦ FAX (225) 923-1004 ♦ [www.lhaonline.org](http://www.lhaonline.org)

August 17, 2009

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Herbert C. Hoover Building (HCHB)  
U.S. Department of Commerce / NTIA  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Mr. Strickling:

The Louisiana Hospital Association (LHA) is pleased to support the Federal Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program through the formation and implementation of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance (LBA) - Infrastructure Project (Easy grants ID: 2239). With approval of this application, Louisiana will be better positioned to assist with enabling rural providers to deliver much needed healthcare services to a significant number of uninsured and underserved Louisianans as well as access to vital continuing education materials. This funding, together with other community resources, is critical to facilitate the use of telemedicine in the included parishes and actively works to leverage previous state and federal funding resources that have contributed to broadband adoption success stories throughout Louisiana.

LHA will continue to provide technical assistance, information related to federal and state health policies, health care data sources and strategic guidance to the Louisiana Broadband Alliance, as well as the hospitals of Louisiana. Collectively, the affiliation between LHA and LBA will continually strive to improve services that offer beneficial solutions to the residents Louisiana.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Bradley, MBA  
Director, Rural Health Programs  
Louisiana Hospital Association  
9521 Brookline Ave  
Baton Rouge, LA 70809  
(225)928-0026





## LOUISIANA PUBLIC BROADCASTING

7733 Perkins Road, Baton Rouge, LA 70810 • (225) 767-5660 • [www.lpb.org](http://www.lpb.org)

August 18, 2009

Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Mr. Strickling,

The Louisiana Educational Television Authority (LETA) was created by Act 13 of the 1971 Louisiana Legislature to provide the benefits of Public Broadcasting to the people of Louisiana. LETA has a longstanding tradition of providing programming that educates, enlightens and informs. As technology changes, we have adapted our production techniques to include the use of innovative technologies.

LETA joined with the Louisiana Department of Education in the formation of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance (LBA) to improve education and the quality of life through the use of broadband technology. As part of that mission, we seek NTIA funding assistance under the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program in both a Public Computer Centers application as well as a Sustainable Broadband Adoption application. Through the effective use of broadband technology, LBA will be able to support multiple economic development efforts related to workforce development, continuing education in the community, as well as enhance learning opportunities for PreK-20 students in the State of Louisiana. LETA is proud to be a founding member of the LBA and we encourage you to support our projects.

LETA also supports the Louisiana Board of Regents in seeking funding assistance in the formation and implementation of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance Infrastructure Project (Easy grants ID: 2239) under the Federal Broadband Initiatives Program and the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

Respectfully,

Beth Courtney  
President and CEO  
Louisiana Educational Television Authority

# Louisiana Delta Initiative

from the Delta Rural Development Center



A community rural development program of the LSU AgCenter and Southern University Ag Center

February 1, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary of Communications and Information  
Herbert C. Hoover Building (HCHB)  
U.S. Department of Commerce / NTIA  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Mr. Strickling:

I welcome the opportunity to share my support and that of the Louisiana Delta Initiative toward having greater access to broadband. The Louisiana Delta Initiative (LDI) fully supports the broadband infrastructure grant submitted by the Louisiana Broadband Alliance (Easy grants ID: 2239) in response to the Federal Broadband Initiatives Program and the Broadband Technologies Opportunities Program.

The Louisiana Delta parishes, primarily located in northeast Louisiana, have been historically marked by persistent poverty. Bringing broadband to this area would help significantly in terms of economic development, improving education and health care access. The main goal of the LDI has been to help this impoverished region gain access to greater economic opportunities. Funding your grant would be a step in that direction and one the LDI certainly supports. I ask that you fund this grant so we can indeed connect the Louisiana Delta to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century infrastructure – broadband.

If there is anything else you need from the Louisiana Delta Initiative, please do not hesitate to contact me as I continue to serve as coordinator for 2010-2011.

Kind Regards,

James Barnes, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor, Director &  
Program Leader for Community Rural Development  
Delta Rural Development Center  
Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness  
LSU Agricultural Center  
Oak Grove, LA  
Ph: (318) 428-3571  
Cell: (318) 334-2352  
E-Mail: [jbarnes@agcenter.lsu.edu](mailto:jbarnes@agcenter.lsu.edu)





## LaSalle Parish School System

P. O. Box 90  
Jena, Louisiana 71342  
Telephone: (318) 992-2161  
Fax: (318) 992-8457

**BILLY WAYNE FOWLER**  
*President*

**ROY D. BREITHAUPT**  
*Superintendent*

January 29, 2010

Billy Wayne Fowler - President  
141 Peyton Street  
Jena, LA 71342  
Home 992-0765  
Work 992-8864  
Ward V

Charlie Anderson - Vice-President  
125 Anderson Road  
Jena, LA 71342  
Home 992-8345  
Work 495-3904  
Ward IX

Rodney Jackson  
245 Hwy. 503  
Olla, LA 71465  
Home 992-7778  
Ward I

Howard McCarty  
P.O. Box 626  
Olla, LA 71465  
Home 495-5997  
Ward II

Jay Ivy  
P.O. Box 673  
Urania, LA 71480  
Home 495-3630  
Work 495-5868  
Ward III

Eli Cooper  
1523 Cowart Street  
Jena, LA 71342  
Home 992-2456  
Work 443-9268  
Ward IV

Buddy Bethard  
P.O. Box 2711  
Jena, LA 71342  
Home 992-8728  
Ward VI

Walter Creel  
P.O. Box 1333  
Jena, LA 71342  
Home 992-6441  
Work 992-2022  
Ward VII

Dolan Pendarvis  
115 Nebo Cutoff  
Jena, LA 71342  
Home 992-2340  
Ward VIII

Melvin Worthington  
655 Yearby Hill Loop  
Jena, LA 71342  
Home 992-2455  
Work 992-2131  
Ward X

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Herbert C. Hoover Building (HCHB)  
U. S. Department of Commerce/NTIA  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Mr. Strickling

LaSalle Parish is pleased to support the Louisiana Broadband Alliance (LBA) – Infrastructure Project (Easy grants ID: 2239) application submitted in response to the Federal Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. With approval of this application, Louisiana and LaSalle Parish School District will be able to have access to 21st century educational tools and resources, provide global learning opportunities, and better prepare our students to compete in the global marketplace.

Without this funding, our district would not have access to this level of fiber infrastructure at reasonable rates which would make broadband affordable for both our school system and our student population.

I strongly urge you to fund this grant request in order to better our schools, our students, our state, and our nation.

Sincerely

*Marsheela Walters*

Marsheela Walters  
District Technology Coordinator

**IMPACT**

*"Individualizing, Motivating, and Preparing All Children Together."*  
**- An Equal Opportunity Employer -**

# JACKSON PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

Wayne R. Alford, Superintendent  
Dennis Clary, President

P.O. Box 705, 315 Pershing Highway  
Jonesboro, LA 71251-705  
e-mail [walford@jpsb.us](mailto:walford@jpsb.us)  
Telephone (318) 259-4456  
Fax (318) 259-2527  
Web [www.jpsb.us](http://www.jpsb.us)

January 29, 2010

Dear Mr. Strickling:

The Jackson Parish School System is pleased to support the Louisiana Broadband Alliance (LBA) - Infrastructure Project (Easy grants ID: 2239) application submitted in response to the Federal Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. With approval of this application, Louisiana and our school district will be able to access a broad array of 21<sup>st</sup> century educational tools and resources, provide global learning opportunities and better prepare our students to compete in the global marketplace.

If funded, the Jackson Parish School System, anticipates utilizing the LONI broadband infrastructure at data rates as high as 1000 Gbps. This would provide our district with unprecedented access to the National LambdaRail, the Louisiana State University System, the Louisiana Community and Technical College System, the Louisiana Department of Education, Louisiana Public Broadcasting and other national resources.

I strongly urge and wholeheartedly support the funding of this grant request by NTIA.

Sincerely

*Mike Staples*  
Mike Staples  
Supervisor of Technology



# Iberville Parish School Board

P. EDWARD CANCIENNE, JR., Ph.D.  
*Superintendent  
Secretary-Treasurer*

MELVIN LODGE  
*President*

GLYNA M. KELLY  
*Vice-President*

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Herbert C. Hoover Building (HCHB)  
U.S. Department of Commerce / NTIA  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Mr. Strickling:

Iberville Parish is pleased to support the Louisiana Broadband Alliance (LBA) - Infrastructure Project (Easy grants ID: 2239) application submitted in response to the Federal Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. With approval of this application, Louisiana and our school district will be able to have access to 21st century educational tools and resources, provide global learning opportunities and better prepare our students to compete in the global marketplace.

Without this funding our district would not have access to this level of fiber infrastructure at reasonable rates which would make broadband affordable for both our school system and our student population.

I strongly urge you to fund this grant request in order to better our schools, our students, our state and our nation.

Sincerely,  
*Olive Tuminello*  
Olive Tuminello

# FRANKLIN PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

*Dr. Lanny Johnson*

*Superintendent*

*Eddie Ray Bryan*

*President*

*District 1*

*Dorothy Brown*

*Vice-President*

*District 7*

*Richard Kelly*

*Chaplain*

*District 4*

*Monnie Patton*

*District 2*

*Jesse Young*

*District 3*

*Louise Johnson*

*District 6*

*Tim Eubanks*

*District 5*

January 29, 2010

Mr. Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Herbert C. Hoover Building  
U. S. Department of Commerce/NTIA  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Mr. Strickling:

Franklin Parish School Board is pleased to support the Louisiana Broadband Alliance (LBA) – Infrastructure Project (Easy grants ID: 2239) application submitted in response to the Federal Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. With approval of this application, Louisiana and our school district will be able to have access to 21<sup>st</sup> century educational tools and resources, provide global learning opportunities and better prepare our students to compete in the global market place.

Without this funding our district would be not have access to this level of fiber infrastructure at reasonable rates which would make broadband affordable for both our school system and our student population.

I strongly urge you to fund this grant request in order to better our schools, our students, our state and our nation.

Sincerely,



Dr. Lanny Johnson  
Superintendent  
Franklin Parish School Board

Ljyb



EAST BATON ROUGE PARISH SCHOOL SYSTEM  
12000 GOODWOOD BOULEVARD  
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70815  
PHONE (225) 226-7610 FAX (225) 226-7902  
[WWW.EBRSCHOOLS.ORG](http://WWW.EBRSCHOOLS.ORG)  
LIBRARY SERVICES & INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY  
CATHY SEAL, DIRECTOR

---

January 29, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Herbert C. Hoover Building (HCHB)  
U.S. Department of Commerce / NTIA  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Mr. Strickling:

I am pleased to support the Louisiana Broadband Alliance (LBA) - Infrastructure Project (Easy grants ID: 2239) application submitted in response to the Federal Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. With approval of this application, Louisiana school districts will be able to have access to 21<sup>st</sup> century educational tools and resources, provide global learning opportunities and better prepare our students to compete in the global marketplace.

Without this funding districts would not have access to this level of fiber infrastructure at reasonable rates which would make broadband affordable for school systems and student s across the state

I strongly urge you to fund this grant request in order to better our schools, our students, our state and our nation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Catherine A. Seal'.

Director, Library Services and Instructional Technology

# Catahoula Parish School Board

Post Office Box 290  
Harrisonburg, Louisiana 71340  
Telephone: (318) 744-5727  
Fax: (318) 744-9221

Superintendent  
Dr. Gwile Paul Freeman

**BOARD MEMBERS**  
Wayne Sanders, President  
Dewey W. Stockman, Vice-President  
Lillian Aplin  
Letishia Hatcher  
Charles House  
Josephine Jones  
Jane Martin  
Tim Tomlinson  
Dorothy Watson

January 29, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Herbert C. Hoover Building (HCHB)  
U.S. Department of Commerce / NTIA  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Mr. Strickling:

Catahoula Parish is pleased to support the Louisiana Broadband Alliance (LBA) - Infrastructure Project (Easy grants ID: 2239) application submitted in response to the Federal Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. With approval of this application, Louisiana and our school district will be able to access a broad array of 21st century educational tools and resources, provide global learning opportunities and better prepare our students to compete in the global marketplace.

If funded, Catahoula Parish, anticipates utilizing the LONI broadband infrastructure at data rates as high as 1000 Gbps. This would provide our district with unprecedented access to the National LambdaRail, the Louisiana State University System, the Louisiana Community and Technical College System, the Louisiana Department of Education, Louisiana Public Broadcasting and other national resources.

I strongly urge and wholeheartedly support the funding of this grant request by NTIA.

Sincerely,



Gwile Paul Freeman, Ph.D.  
Superintendent



# *Caldwell PARISH SCHOOL BOARD*

Post Office Box 1019  
Columbia, LA 71418  
Telephone: (318) 649-2689  
Fax: (318) 649-0636

John Sartin, Superintendent

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Herbert C. Hoover Building (HCHB)  
U.S. Department of Commerce / NTIA  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20230

January 28, 2010

Dear Mr. Strickling:

Caldwell Parish Schools is pleased to support the Louisiana Broadband Alliance (LBA) - Infrastructure Project (Easy grants ID: 2239) application submitted in response to the Federal Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. With approval of this application, Louisiana and our school district will be able to have access to 21st century educational tools and resources, provide global learning opportunities and better prepare our students to compete in the global marketplace. Residents of our rural district will benefit immeasurably if this project is funded.

Without this funding our district would not have access to this level of fiber infrastructure at reasonable rates which would make broadband affordable for both our school system and our student population.

I strongly urge you to fund this grant request in order to better our schools, our students, our state and our nation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Merrick Elizabeth Morrow".

Merrick Elizabeth Morrow  
Technology Coordinator



# Bossier Schools

Curriculum K-12  
Professional Library  
Public Relations  
Staff Development  
Technology

2719 Airline Dr.  
Bossier City, Louisiana 71111  
Telephone (318) 549-6200  
FAX (318) 549-6178

## *Bossier Instructional Center*

---

Dear Mr. Strickling:

The Bossier Parish School System is pleased to support the Louisiana Broadband Alliance (LBA) - Infrastructure Project (Easy grants ID: 2239) application submitted in response to the Federal Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. With approval of this application, Louisiana and our school district will be able to access a broad array of 21<sup>st</sup> century educational tools and resources, provide global learning opportunities and better prepare our students to compete in the global marketplace.

If funded, Bossier Schools anticipates utilizing the LONI broadband infrastructure at data rates as high as 1000 Gbps. This would provide our district with unprecedented access to the National LambdaRail, the Louisiana State University System, the Louisiana Community and Technical College System, the Louisiana Department of Education, Louisiana Public Broadcasting and other national resources.

I strongly urge and wholeheartedly support the funding of this grant request by NTIA.

Sincerely

*William C. Allred*  
Director of Technology

Michael Applewhite, President

Ruth Horne, Superintendent

**Board Members**

Adam Kemp, Vice President  
Eleanor Duke  
Paul Kates

# *Bogalusa City Schools*

**Board Members**

Rev. Raymond E. Mims  
Robin Simmons  
Dr. Brad Williams

1705 Sullivan Drive

Bogalusa, La. 70427

[www.bogalusaschools.org](http://www.bogalusaschools.org)

985-735-1392

---

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Herbert C. Hoover Building (HCHB)  
U.S. Department of Commerce / NTIA  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Mr. Strickling:

Bogalusa City Schools is pleased to support the Louisiana Broadband Alliance (LBA) - Infrastructure Project (Easy grants ID: 2239) application submitted in response to the Federal Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. With approval of this application, Louisiana and our school district will be able to have access to 21<sup>st</sup> century educational tools and resources, provide global learning opportunities and better prepare our students to compete in the global marketplace.

Without this funding our district would not have access to this level of fiber infrastructure at reasonable rates which would make broadband affordable for both our school system and our student population.

I strongly urge you to fund this grant request in order to better our schools, our students, our state and our nation.

Sincerely,



Ruth Horne  
Superintendent  
Bogalusa Cit Schools

# ALLEN PARISH SCHOOL BOARD

Mrs. Carolyn Manuel, President, District 6

Mrs. Alma W. Johnson, District 1  
Mrs. Cathy Farris, District 2  
Mr. Bobby Odom, District 3

P. O. Drawer C  
1111 West Seventh Avenue  
Oberlin, Louisiana 70655  
Phone (337) 639-4311  
Fax (337) 639-2346

Mr. Michael Doucet, Superintendent

Mrs. Faye Hollins, District 4  
Mr. Gregory Monceaux, District 5  
Mr. Brett Fawcett, District 7

January 28, 2010

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
Herbert C. Hoover Building (HCHB)  
U.S. Department of Commerce / NTIA  
1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Mr. Strickling:

Allen Parish Schools is pleased to support the Louisiana Broadband Alliance (LBA) - Infrastructure Project (Easy grants ID: 2239) application submitted in response to the Federal Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. With approval of this application, Louisiana and our school district will be able to have access to 21<sup>st</sup> century educational tools and resources, provide global learning opportunities and better prepare our students to compete in the global marketplace.

Without this funding our district would not have access to this level of fiber infrastructure at reasonable rates which would make broadband affordable for both our school system and our student population.

I strongly urge you to fund this grant request in order to better our schools, our students, our state and our nation.

Sincerely

  
David Hooper  
CTO

**FAX**

To: Lennie Lege  
LSU

From: **Beth Vandersteen**

**West Baton Rouge Parish Library**

830 North Alexander Avenue

Port Allen, LA 70767

Ph 225-342-7920

Fax 225-342-7918

Fax Number: 578-3434

Number of pages (inc cover) 2

**Message:**

*Letter of support follows.*

*Thanks + Merry Christmas!*

*Beth Vandersteen*

*12-23-09*

**West Baton Rouge Parish Library****830 North Alexander Avenue****Port Allen, Louisiana 70767****Ph 225-342-7920; Fax 225-342-7918**

December 23, 2009

Re: Easygrant ID: 2239

To Whom It May Concern:

Please consider this letter of support for the application of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance to provide infrastructure to increase bandwidth in areas of Louisiana. We at West Baton Rouge Parish Library are currently at 3 Megs/second, which needs to be doubled to continue to provide adequate service for the people who connect to the Internet through our library. In our small, rural parish of 22,800, people depend heavily on the library, especially in tough economic times. Improving the infrastructure as proposed in Easygrants ID: 2239 would be a significant accomplishment toward providing quality library service for people across the state.

West Baton Rouge Parish Library will consider using the resources of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance to provide adequate broadband access. Thank you for considering this application.

Sincerely,



Beth Vandersteen, Director





# SKYRIDER COMMUNICATIONS

Dr. Sally Clausen  
Commissioner of Higher Education  
1201 N. Third Street, Suite 6-200  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Dear Dr. Clausen,

Skyrider Communications Inc. is an established provider of "last mile" connectivity and high-speed Internet access for K-12 schools, government and municipalities, healthcare systems, libraries and colleges or universities. SkyRider focuses on designing, installing, operating and maintaining wide area network systems (WAN) that utilize the latest technologies available.

Skyrider and its management team have been active in providing quality Telecom services for over 20 years. SkyRider Communications is a Regional Telecom provider serving many qualified customers within the geographic area of Louisiana, Mississippi, Texas, Oklahoma and Arkansas.

Our ability to seamlessly integrate wired and wireless solutions has enabled us to provide services that are much more economical than traditional methods. Our staff has assisted in the design and operation of many of the state's largest WANs, covering hundreds of square miles and delivering bandwidths of up to 10 Gigabit. As a licensed telecommunications carrier we provide unmatched management and customer service.

Skyrider welcomes the opportunity to participate in the Federal Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program in the formation and implementation of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance - Infrastructure Project (Easygrants ID: 2239) by offering last mile services to Schools, Libraries and Healthcare entities as described in the proposed service area. Should you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to contact me directly at the number below.

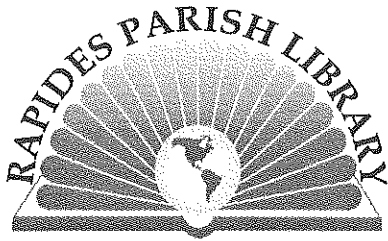
Sincerely,

Brad Warden / President

1200 Arkansas Road

West Monroe, LA 71291

(800) 536-7035, Direct (318) 680-6400



# RAPIDES PARISH LIBRARY

411 Washington Street  
Alexandria, Louisiana 71301-8338

[www.rpl.org](http://www.rpl.org)

Steve Rogge, Director

December 30, 2009

Mr. Lonnie Leger  
LONI – Director of Networking  
Louisiana State University  
200 Computing Services Center  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803

Dear Mr. Leger:

Rapides Parish Library expects to be a customer of broadband infrastructure technology at the data rate of 20 Mbps within the next three years.

Pursuant to successful awards by the Federal Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program to the Louisiana Board of Regents for the formation and implementation of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance - Infrastructure Project, we believe this project (Easygrants ID: 2239) to be a significant enabler in the accomplishment of this plan.

With the formation of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance, Rapides Parish Library may consider utilizing this structure for broadband access to its peers, national networks as well as Internet access.

Sincerely,

Steve Rogge  
Director

SR/sl

Administrative Offices 318/ 445-6436

Main Library  
411 Washington Street  
Alexandria, LA 71301-8338

318-445-2411  
Circulation x200  
Reference x202  
Interlibrary Loans x220  
Technical Services x209  
Information Technology x208  
Bookmobile x222  
Red Carpet Service x221  
Preschool Outreach 442-2483 x205

Boyce Branch  
500A Ulster Street  
Boyce, LA  
318/ 793-2182

Gunter Branch  
5630 Hwy. 28E  
Pineville, LA  
318/ 443-7259

Hineston Branch  
1810 Hwy. 121  
Hineston, LA  
318/ 793-8461

Johnson Branch  
1610 Veterans Drive  
Lecompte, LA  
318/ 776-5153

M.L. King Branch  
3311 Third Street  
Alexandria, LA  
318/ 445-3912

McDonald Branch  
1075 Hwy. 497  
Glenmora, LA  
318/ 748-4848

Martin Branch  
801 W. Shamrock Street  
Pineville, LA  
318/ 442-7575

Robertson Branch  
809 Tioga High School Rd.  
Ball, LA  
318/ 640-3098

Westside Regional  
5416 Provine Place  
Alexandria, LA  
318/442-2483

**Pointe Coupee Parish Library**  
**201 Claiborne Street**  
**New Roads, Louisiana 70760**  
<http://www.pointe-coupee.lib.la.us>

January 3, 2010

Dr. Sally Clausen  
Commissioner of Higher Education  
1201 N. Third Street, Suite 6-200  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Dear Dr. Clausen:

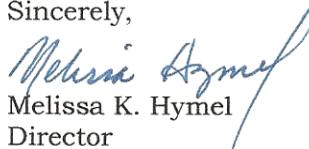
On behalf of the Pointe Coupee Parish Library, please know we applaud and support the efforts of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance to secure broadband funding on behalf of the citizens of the northeastern and central areas of Louisiana. The Pointe Coupee Parish Library is thrilled to support the Louisiana Broadband Alliance in its application to NTIA Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) grants for computing centers and sustaining broadband.

Pointe Coupee Parish Library serves a population of approximately 22,000. Our five library facilities are located in rural areas with limited technology resources. In many of these communities, our public library is the sole source of technology. We have experienced a tremendous increase in demand in the last eighteen months, primarily due to the recent economic downturn. Many patrons are seeking our assistance with resumes, job searches, unemployment benefits, basic computer access, technological program instruction, and technical skills development. We have a small staff with limited resources. Every extra dollar is currently used to provide quality library resources to our patrons. In this last legislative session, our libraries were cut valuable state aid dollars. And our own local tax base was significantly reduced. But demand for library services continues to increase on a daily basis. As also does our dependence on all things Internet.

Pursuant to successful awards by the Federal Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program to the Louisiana Board of Regents for the formation and implementation of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance – Infrastructure Project, we believe this project (Easygrants ID: 2239) to be a significant enabler in the accomplishment of this plan. With the formation of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance, Pointe Coupee Parish Library may consider utilizing this structure for broadband access to its peers, national networks as well as internet access.

Please know you have the support of the Pointe Coupee Parish Library. We are excited about the possibilities provided by this grant application. And we support your efforts in providing this opportunity to the public libraries in Pointe Coupee Parish.

Sincerely,



Melissa K. Hymel  
Director  
Pointe Coupee Parish Library



**Ouachita Parish**  
PUBLIC LIBRARY

www.ouachita.lib.la.us

Ph. 318-327-1490

Fax. 318-327-1373

1800 Stubbs Ave. Monroe, La. 71201

December 28, 2009

Dr. Sally Clausen  
Commissioner of Higher Education  
1201 N. Third Street, Suite 6-200  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Dear Dr. Clausen

Ouachita Parish Public Library is currently a customer of the available broadband infrastructure technology at the data rate of 100 Mbps for the Main Branch and 10 Mbps at the branches. We anticipate that we will have to increase our bandwidth in the next three years to meet the expectations of our patrons for fast service and more available workstations.

Pursuant to successful awards by the Federal Broadband Initiative Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program the Louisiana Board of Regents for the formation and implementation of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance – Infrastructure Project, we believe this project (Easygrants ID: 2239) to be a significant enabler in the accomplishment of this plan.

With the formation of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance, Ouachita Parish Public Library may consider utilizing this structure for broadband access to its peers, national networks as well as Internet access.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Mouliere, Director  
Ouachita Parish Public Library



---

2904 Evangeline Street Monroe LA 71201  
Phone: 318.340.0750 FAX: 318.340.0580  
<http://www.nexussystems.net>

January 27, 2010

Dr. Sally Clausen  
Commissioner of Higher Education  
1201 N. Third Street, Suite 6-200  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802.

Dear Dr. Clausen:

This letter is in reference to the "Federal Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program in the formation and implementation of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance - Infrastructure Project (Easygrants ID: 2239)" application submitted by the Board of Regents for Round 1 funding.

Nexus Systems is heavily invested in the 12 "River Parishes" in Northeastern Louisiana. We currently serve over 100 "anchor" institutions with "Last Mile" service in those parishes and we are always seeking better service opportunities to those groups and other customers. One of the key problems has been adequate and affordable "Middle Mile" backhauls.

To help achieve Middle Mile improvements, Nexus Systems submitted a Round 1 Middle Mile project (\$24 million) to lay fiber across 400 miles in the 12 "River Parishes". The project is in competition with the Board of Regents 700 mile (\$110 million) submission which would directly overlay the Nexus plan and current Nexus services.

We realize both plans cannot be funded, but also realize it is most essential for Louisiana to receive funding to expand networking services to these areas so desperately in need. Our goal from the outset of this program has been to find a common plan that will allow these areas the benefit of new service. The grant NOFA also encourages applicants with overlapping service areas to seek a common solution. After extended discussions with LONI and State personnel, we are convinced it is in the best interests of Louisiana to merge efforts to present a common united plan to the NTIA. We have presented a proposal to LONI to that effect and have received outstanding cooperation and support for merging the goals of Nexus into the overall Board of Regents plan. We look forward to working with the Board and LONI to push fiber services into areas where this improvement is needed.



Nexus Systems welcomes the opportunity to support the Board of Regents project if it is selected by the NTIA for funding. We offer any support we can provide to help the Board of Regents achieve funding. We will provide any technical or management assistance possible to promote an effective implementation. We already serve many of the anchor institutions which would be affected, but those customers need the Middle Mile enhancements which can only be provided by this grant process. We stand ready to utilize the fiber network to provide gigabit expansions to Schools, Libraries, and Healthcare entities as described in the proposed service area.

The partners at Nexus Systems have dedicated their careers to supporting growth in educational services in Louisiana. The company was founded by and is owned by four partners, all of whom are former career K-12 school personnel. We have been providing Internet and telecommunications services for over 10 years and currently serve as the Internet provider for 19 school districts and over 200 schools in North Louisiana. We also serve libraries, medical facilities, law enforcement, small businesses and the general public at large. We employ over 40 direct personnel and many more in contracting and consulting capacities. We partner with AT&T, CenturyLink, NUSA, and many other vendor competitors with the one goal of providing the best service to the public. The stimulus project will provide an outstanding opportunity for our business to provide better service in the future.

Thank you for allowing us to support and work with the Board of Regents.

Sincerely,



Mark Stevenson

President, Nexus Systems, Inc

msteve@nexussystems.net

**MADISON PARISH LIBRARY**

403 N. MULBERRY  
TALLULAH, LOUISIANA 71282  
PHONE 574-4308



Madison Parish Library is desiring to become a customer of broadband infrastructure technology at the data rate of 10 Mbps within the next three years. Patrons truly rely on the public library as a main point of access to online information and opportunities. With broadband Internet, the door is open to more access and intellectual opportunity. Our intent is to be able to: provide patrons with increased and supported quality connectivity in Tallulah, Louisiana and increase Internet speed.

Pursuant to successful awards by the Federal Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program to the Louisiana Board of Regents for the formation and implementation of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance - Infrastructure Project, we believe this project (Easygrants ID: 2239) to be a significant enabler in the accomplishment of this plan. With the formation of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance, the Madison Parish Library may consider utilizing this structure for broadband access to its patrons, national networks as well as internet access.

The goal of the pilot Opportunity Online broadband grant program is to help states create and implement strategies that will increase public library Internet connections to at least 1.5 Mbps, or faster wherever feasible, and continuously improve connection speeds as communities' needs grow.

Sincerely,

Kizzy Bynum Wilmore,

Library Director



Jamie Welch  
CIO, IT Director

---

Louisiana Rural Health Information Exchange  
14116 Denham Road  
Pride, Louisiana 70770  
(225) 389-9429

January 8, 2010

Dr. Sally Clausen  
Commissioner of Higher Education  
1201 N. Third Street, Suite 6-200  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Dear Dr. Clausen,

The Louisiana Rural Health Information Exchange (LARHIX) is a statewide health information exchange initiative focused on bringing primary and specialty health care services to citizens of rural Louisiana. Part of the LARHIX initiative is a mobile mammography service that provides on-site breast cancer screening services to the underserved communities in rural Louisiana. The screenings are real-time – before a patient leaves the rural site, she knows the results of her test. This service is a first in Louisiana, and one of very few successful programs in the nation.

Mammography screening images are large, usually greater than 50 megabytes in size. LARHIX expects to utilize at least 100 Mbps or more at each rural site where mobile mammography services are offered. Pursuant to successful awards by the Federal Broadband Initiatives program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program to the Louisiana Board of Regents for the formation and implementation of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance – Infrastructure Project, we believe this project (Easygrants ID: 2239) will be a significant enabler in the accomplishment of extending mobile mammography services to 13 additional rural, underserved areas.

With the formation of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance, continual opportunity to bring desperately needed screening services becomes a reality.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jamie Welch', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Jamie Welch  
Chief Information Officer  
Rural Hospital Coalition, Inc.  
Louisiana Rural Health Information Exchange

Citizens Medical Center  
P.O. Box 1079, Columbia, LA 71418

Riverland Medical Center  
P.O. Box 111, Ferriday, LA 71334

Franklin Medical Center  
P. O. Box 1300, Winnsboro, LA 71295-1300

East Carroll Parish Hospital  
336 N. Hood St. Lake Providence, LA 71254

Madison Parish Hospital  
P.O. Box 1559, Tallulah, LA 71284-1559

Morehouse General Hospital  
P. O. Box 1060, Bastrop, LA 71221-1660

LaSalle General Hospital  
P.O. Box 2780, Jena, LA 71342-2780

Richardson Medical Center  
P.O. Box 388, Rayville, LA 71269-0388

Richland Parish Hospital - Delhi  
407 Cincinnati Street, Delhi, LA 71232

West Carroll Memorial Hospital  
706 Ross St., Oak Grove, LA 71263

Hardtner Medical Center  
1102 N. Pine St., Olla, LA 71465

Avoyelles Hospital  
P.O. Box 249, Marksville, LA 71351

Bunkie General Hospital  
P.O. Box 380, Bunkie, LA 71322



304 Laurel Street, Suite 2D Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70801  
Phone 225-334-9299 Fax 225-334-9847 www.lhcqf.org

January 8, 2010

Dr. Sally Clausen  
Commissioner of Higher Education  
1201 N. Third Street, Suite 6-200  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Dear Dr. Clausen,

The Louisiana Health Care Quality Forum (LHCQF) is a private, not-for-profit organization dedicated to improving health care outcomes for the people of our state. Our volunteer board represents a cross section of public and private insurance purchasers, patient advocates, providers, physicians and insurers in the state. Dozens of other stakeholders volunteer their time in committees that focus on health information technology, quality measurement, medical homes, and outreach and education.

Pursuant to successful awards by the Federal Broadband Initiatives program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program to the Louisiana Board of Regents for the formation and implementation of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance – Infrastructure Project, we believe this project (Easygrants ID: 2239) will be a significant enabler in the accomplishment of extending much needed broadband serves to support mobile mammography to 13 rural, underserved areas and Telemedicine/Distance learning to 41 rural areas. With the formation of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance, continual opportunity to bring desperately needed broadband services for health care needs becomes a reality.

Approval of this application will enable rural providers to deliver much needed healthcare services to a significant number of uninsured and underserved Louisianans as well as access to vital continuing education materials. This funding, together with other community resources, is critical to facilitate the use of telemedicine in the seventeen included parishes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Fleming".

Michael Fleming, MD  
President



Citizens Medical Center  
P.O. Box 1079, Columbia, LA 71418

Riverland Medical Center  
P.O. Box 111, Ferriday, LA 71334

Franklin Medical Center  
P. O. Box 1300, Winnsboro, LA 71295-1300

East Carroll Parish Hospital  
336 N. Hood St. Lake Providence, LA 71254

Madison Parish Hospital  
P.O. Box 1559, Tallulah, LA 71284-1559

Morehouse General Hospital  
P. O. Box 1060, Bastrop, LA 71221-1660

LaSalle General Hospital  
P.O. Box 2780, Jena, LA 71342-2780

Richardson Medical Center  
P.O. Box 388, Rayville, LA 71269-0388

Richland Parish Hospital - Delhi  
407 Cincinnati Street, Delhi, LA 71232

West Carroll Memorial Hospital  
706 Ross St., Oak Grove, LA 71263

Hardtner Medical Center  
1102 N. Pine St., Olla, LA 71465

Avoyelles Hospital  
P.O. Box 249, Marksville, LA 71351

Bunkie General Hospital  
P.O. Box 380, Bunkie, LA 71322

Allen Parish Hospital --ICO  
108 6th Avenue, Kinder, LA 70648

Jennings American Legion Hospital  
1634 Elton Road, Jennings, LA 70549

Pointe Coupee General Hospital  
2202 False River Dr, New Roads, LA 70760

St. Francis Medical Center  
309 Jackson St, Monroe, LA 71210

St. Francis Medical Center (North Campus)  
3421 Medical Park Dr, Monroe, LA 71203

Allen Parish Health Unit  
145 Hospital Drive, Oakdale, LA 71463

Avoyelles Parish Health Unit  
657 Government Street, Marksville, LA 71351

Caldwell Parish Health Unit  
501 Collins Road, Columbia, LA 71418

Catahoula Parish Health Unit - Jonesville  
200 Third Street, Jonesville, LA 71343

Concordia Parish Health Unit  
905 Mickey Gilley Avenue, Ferriday, LA 71334

East Carroll Parish Health Unit  
407 Second Street, Lake Providence, LA 71254

Franklin Parish Health Unit  
6614 Main Street, Winnsboro, LA 71295

Jefferson Davis Parish Health Unit  
403 Baker Street, Jennings, LA 70546

LaSalle Parish Health Unit  
1673 North Second Street, Jena, LA 71343

Madison Parish Health Unit  
606 Depot Street, Tallulah, LA 71282

Morehouse Parish Health Unit  
650 School Road, Bastrop, LA 71220

Ouachita Parish Health Unit  
1650 DeSiard Street, Monroe, LA 71201

Pointe Coupee Parish Health Unit  
282 B Hospital Road, New Roads, LA 70760

Richland Parish Health Unit  
21 Lynn Gayle Robertson Road, Rayville, LA 71269

St. Mary Parish Health Unit  
1200 David Drive, Morgan City, LA 70380

Tensas Parish Health Unit  
1115 Levee Street, St. Joseph, LA 71366

West Carroll Parish Health Unit  
402 Beale Street, Oak Grove, LA 71263

Allen Mental Health Center  
402 Industrial Drive, Oberlin, LA 70655

Jonesville Mental Health Center  
2801 Fourth Street, Jonesville, LA 71343

Monroe Mental Health Center  
4800 South Grand Street, Monroe, LA 71210

Richland Mental Health Center  
115 Christian Drive, Rayville, LA 71269

St. Mary Mental Health Center  
500 Roderick Street, Morgan City, LA 70380

Tallulah Mental Health Center  
1012 Johnson Street, Tallulah, LA 71284

Winnsboro Mental Health Center  
1301 Landis Street, Winnsboro, LA 71295

The Medical Center  
307 Chisum and Hwy 15, Sicily Island, LA 71368

Concordia Community Health Center  
1810 E.E. Wallace Blvd, Ferriday, LA 71334

Wisner Medical Clinic  
126 Watson Street, Wisner, LA 71378

Outpatient Medical Center  
804 Beech Street, Tallulah, LA 71282

Morehouse Community Medical Centers, Inc.  
518 Durham Street, Bastrop, LA 71220

Primary Health Services Center  
2913 Desiard Street, Monroe, LA 71201

SD Hill Clinic  
1805 Jackson Street, Monroe, LA 71202

Innis Community Health Center  
6450 Hwy 1, Innis, LA 70747

Livonia Community Health Center  
3041 Fordoche Road, Livonia, LA 70755

Innis School Based Health Center  
8434 Pointe Coupee Road, Morganza, LA 70759

Tensas Community Health Center  
1115 Levee Street, St. Joseph, LA 71366

Teche Action Clinic  
1115 Weber Street, Franklin, LA 70538



**State of Louisiana**  
Department of Health and Hospitals  
Division of Information Technology

January 14, 2010

Dr. Sally Clausen  
Commissioner of Higher Education  
1201 N. Third Street, Suite 6-200  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Dear Dr. Clausen,

The Louisiana Department of Health & Hospitals (DHH) was awarded a grant of \$15.9M from the Universal Service Fund, a fee-based program administered by the Federal Communications Commission and the Universal Services Administration Company. Through this program, the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals has taken a leading role in establishing a broadband network for the delivery of health care services to communities throughout the state. At present, there are 163 participating healthcare locations in the Louisiana version of the Rural Health Care Pilot Program, which is only one of 62 such programs across the USA.

Our goal is to provide an advanced network for telemedicine, medical training, remote radiography and other applications that expand the reach of medical services to both urban and rural communities. In cooperation with the Louisiana Rural Health Information Exchange (LARHIX), we plan to direct the earliest stages of the program at 13 rural communities, with DHH providing telecommunications infrastructure while LARHIX provides medical facilities such as mobile mammography vans for breast cancer screening.

DHH's Rural Health Care Pilot Program is already underway, but the scope of our project is limited. To improve our coverage area and ensure that medical services are delivered efficiently and extensively, we welcome and support the formation and implementation of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance - Infrastructure Project (Easygrants ID: 2239) through awards by the Federal Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. John Ragsdale".

R. John Ragsdale  
Chief Information Officer  
Louisiana Department of Health & Hospitals

Citizens Medical Center  
P.O. Box 1079, Columbia, LA 71418

Riverland Medical Center  
P.O. Box 111, Ferriday, LA 71334

Franklin Medical Center  
P. O. Box 1300, Winnsboro, LA 71295-1300

East Carroll Parish Hospital  
336 N. Hood St. Lake Providence, LA 71254

Madison Parish Hospital  
P.O. Box 1559, Tallulah, LA 71284-1559

Morehouse General Hospital  
P. O. Box 1060, Bastrop, LA 71221-1660

LaSalle General Hospital  
P.O. Box 2780, Jena, LA 71342-2780

Richardson Medical Center  
P.O. Box 388, Rayville, LA 71269-0388

Richland Parish Hospital - Delhi  
407 Cincinnati Street, Delhi, LA 71232

West Carroll Memorial Hospital  
706 Ross St., Oak Grove, LA 71263

Hardtner Medical Center  
1102 N. Pine St., Olla, LA 71465

Avoyelles Hospital  
P.O. Box 249, Marksville, LA 71351

Bunkie General Hospital  
P.O. Box 380, Bunkie, LA 71322

Allen Parish Hospital --ICO  
108 6th Avenue, Kinder, LA 70648

Jennings American Legion Hospital  
1634 Elton Road, Jennings, LA 70549

Pointe Coupee General Hospital  
2202 False River Dr, New Roads, LA 70760

St. Francis Medical Center  
309 Jackson St, Monroe, LA 71210

St. Francis Medical Center (North Campus)  
3421 Medical Park Dr, Monroe, LA 71203



Allen Parish Health Unit  
145 Hospital Drive, Oakdale, LA 71463

Avoyelles Parish Health Unit  
657 Government Street, Marksville, LA 71351

Caldwell Parish Health Unit  
501 Collins Road, Columbia, LA 71418

Catahoula Parish Health Unit - Jonesville  
200 Third Street, Jonesville, LA 71343

Concordia Parish Health Unit  
905 Mickey Gilley Avenue, Ferriday, LA 71334

East Carroll Parish Health Unit  
407 Second Street, Lake Providence, LA 71254

Franklin Parish Health Unit  
6614 Main Street, Winnsboro, LA 71295

Jefferson Davis Parish Health Unit  
403 Baker Street, Jennings, LA 70546

LaSalle Parish Health Unit  
1673 North Second Street, Jena, LA 71343

Madison Parish Health Unit  
606 Depot Street, Tallulah, LA 71282

Morehouse Parish Health Unit  
650 School Road, Bastrop, LA 71220

Ouachita Parish Health Unit  
1650 DeSiard Street, Monroe, LA 71201

Pointe Coupee Parish Health Unit  
282 B Hospital Road, New Roads, LA 70760

Richland Parish Health Unit  
21 Lynn Gayle Robertson Road, Rayville, LA 71269

St. Mary Parish Health Unit  
1200 David Drive, Morgan City, LA 70380

Tensas Parish Health Unit  
1115 Levee Street, St. Joseph, LA 71366

West Carroll Parish Health Unit  
402 Beale Street, Oak Grove, LA 71263

Allen Mental Health Center  
402 Industrial Drive, Oberlin, LA 70655

Jonesville Mental Health Center  
2801 Fourth Street, Jonesville, LA 71343

Monroe Mental Health Center  
4800 South Grand Street, Monroe, LA 71210

Richland Mental Health Center  
115 Christian Drive, Rayville, LA 71269

St. Mary Mental Health Center  
500 Roderick Street, Morgan City, LA 70380

Tallulah Mental Health Center  
1012 Johnson Street, Tallulah, LA 71284

Winnsboro Mental Health Center  
1301 Landis Street, Winnsboro, LA 71295

The Medical Center  
307 Chisum and Hwy 15, Sicily Island, LA 71368

Concordia Community Health Center  
1810 E.E. Wallace Blvd, Ferriday, LA 71334

Wisner Medical Clinic  
126 Watson Street, Wisner, LA 71378

Outpatient Medical Center  
804 Beech Street, Tallulah, LA 71282

Morehouse Community Medical Centers, Inc.  
518 Durham Street, Bastrop, LA 71220

Primary Health Services Center  
2913 Desiard Street, Monroe, LA 71201

SD Hill Clinic  
1805 Jackson Street, Monroe, LA 71202

Innis Community Health Center  
6450 Hwy 1, Innis, LA 70747

Livonia Community Health Center  
3041 Fordoche Road, Livonia, LA 70755

Innis School Based Health Center  
8434 Pointe Coupee Road, Morganza, LA 70759

Tensas Community Health Center  
1115 Levee Street, St. Joseph, LA 71366

Teche Action Clinic  
1115 Weber Street, Franklin, LA 70538



**STATE OF LOUISIANA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**  
**POST OFFICE BOX 94064, BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA 70804-9064**  
Toll Free #: 1-877-453-2721  
<http://www.louisianaschools.net>

January 27, 2010

Dr. Sally Clausen  
Commissioner of Higher Education  
1201 N. Third Street, Suite 6-200  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Dear Dr. Clausen:

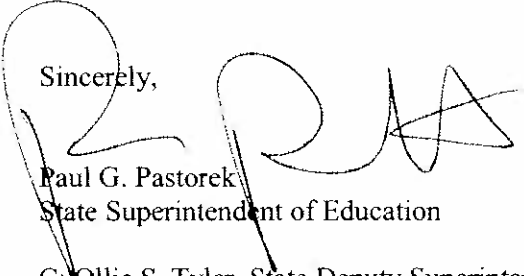
The Board of Regents via its Louisiana Broadband Alliance - Infrastructure Project application (Easygrants ID: 2239) has proposed an ambitious and very significant broadband infrastructure project that will greatly improve education in the State of Louisiana. This project will enable students and educators to access technology-rich resources across the global Internet, utilize collaboration tools, expand learning and teaching opportunities, lessen the digital divide between rural and urban schools, provide access to research and educational networks such as Internet2 and the National LambdaRail, allow for real-time distance learning, and create a statewide educational broadband network for both our educational community and our citizenry.

Approval and implementation of this application will also provide Louisiana with the ability to:

- Connect 72 PK-12 School District Locations, 1471 public school locations, 8 Educational Technology Centers, and 2 Assistive Technology Centers with:
  - Minimum bandwidth of 1000 Mbps per PK-12 School District
  - Minimum bandwidth of 100 Mbps per PK-12 school site and Educational Technology Center
  - Minimum bandwidth of 10 Mbps per Assistive Technology Center
  - Scalability to support future growth of network
- Provide access for additional Community Anchor (Community Colleges, Healthcare, Higher Education, etc.) Facilities at aggregation and endpoints on the network
- Provide access for Libraries and Public Computer Centers to provide public access to Internet, distance education and learning.

For all of these reasons, the Louisiana Department of Education wholeheartedly supports the Board of Regents in its Federal Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program application and strongly supports its approval and funding by NTIA or RUS.

Sincerely,

  
Paul G. Pastorek  
State Superintendent of Education

C: Ollie S. Tyler, State Deputy Superintendent of Education

PGP: cm

*"An Equal Opportunity Employer"*



Reaching for the Stars

# Jefferson Davis Parish Library

Jennings / Elton / Lake Arthur / Wahn

118 W. Plaquemine St. / Jennings, LA 70846 / PH. 337-821-1210 / FAX 337-821-8444

January 21, 2010

Dr. Sally Clausen  
Commissioner of Higher Education  
1201 N. Third Street, Suite 6-200  
Baton Rouge, LA. 70802

Dr. Clausen:

Jefferson Davis Parish Library expects to be a customer of broadband infrastructure technology at the data rate of 10 Mbps within the next three years. As a rural parish, it is important to obtain as much support to ensure that the patrons of our parish have equal opportunities at technological advances.

Pursuant to successful awards by the Federal Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program to the Louisiana Board of Regents for the formation and implementation of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance-Infrastructure Project, we believe this project (Easygrants ID 2239) to be a significant enabler in the accomplishment of this plan.

With the formation of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance, Jefferson Davis Parish Library System may consider utilizing this structure for broadband access to its peers, national networks as well as internet access.

Sincerely,

Linda LeBert-Corbello, PhD  
Director



Reaching for the Stars

# Jefferson Davis Parish Library

Jennings / Elton / Lake Arthur / Wash

118 W. Plaquemine St. / Jennings, LA 70546 / PH. 337-821-1210 / FAX 337-821-8444

Sincerely,

Linda LeBert-Corbello, PhD

Director





# Grant Parish Library

[www.grant.lib.la.us](http://www.grant.lib.la.us)

January 15, 2010

Dr. Sally Clausen  
 Commissioner of Higher Education  
 1201 No. Third Street, Suite 6-200  
 Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Dear Ms. Clausen,

Grant Parish Library expects to be a customer of broadband infrastructure technology at the data rate of 10 Mbps within the next three years.

Pursuant to successful awards by the Federal Broadband initiative Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program to the Louisiana Board of Regents for the formation and implementation of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance-Infrastructure Project, we believe this project (Easygrants ID: 2239) to be a significant enabler in the accomplishment of this plan.

With the formation of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance, Grant Parish Library may consider utilizing this structure for broadband access to its peers, national networks as well as internet access.

Sincerely,

  
 Doris Lively  
 Director

ers/Bookmobile  
 Main Street  
 Louisiana 71417  
 18-627-9920  
 8-627-9900

Montgomery Branch  
 940 Caddo Street  
 P. O. Box 157  
 Montgomery, Louisiana 71454  
 Phone or Fax:  
 318-646-3660

Pollock Branch  
 1316 Pine Street  
 P. O. Box 41  
 Pollock, Louisiana 71467  
 Phone or Fax:  
 318-765-9616

Dry Prong Branch  
 605 Russell Hataway Street  
 P. O. Box 187  
 Dry Prong, Louisiana 71423  
 Phone or Fax:  
 318-899-7588

Georgetown Br  
 4570 Highway  
 P. O. Box 2  
 Georgetown, Louisia  
 Phone or Fa  
 318-827-942



GM CABLE CONTRACTORS, INC.  
Phone: 225-261-9800  
Fax: 225-261-9884

# Fax

Company: <u>LSU</u>	From: <u>M. ORLICH</u>
Attention: <u>JEREMY SONGNE</u>	Date: <u>12-24-09</u>
Fax: <u>(225) 578-0241</u>	Pages: <u>2</u>
Re: <u>LONI Broadband</u>	cc:
Comments:	

JEREMY,

PLEASE REVIEW THE LONI FIBER  
PROPOSAL YOU HAD REQUESTED

THANKS

MIKE



**December 22, 2009**

**LONI  
Louisiana State University  
200 Computing Services  
Baton Rouge, La 70803**

**RE: Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program  
Applicant Organization: State of Louisiana Board of Regents  
Applicant name: Dr. Sally Clausen  
Easygrants ID:2239  
Project Title: Louisiana Broadband Alliance-Infrastructure Project**

**Letter of Intent**

**It is a reasonable expectation for our firm, GM Cable Contractors Inc., a telecommunications company with over 25 years of outside plant construction, to install , in 50-100 mile rural segments ,a 144 strand fiber optic cable, housed in conduit including tracer wire. Project will include hand holes as required and cost approximately     \$68,400.00     per mile.**

**Respectfully,**

**Gil Matherne**

**President /CEO**

Patrick Leigh  
225-235-6038 (cell)



537 Cajundome Blvd.  
Suite 111  
Lafayette, LA 70506  
patrickl@getGDS.com

January 8, 2010

Dr. Sally Clausen  
Commissioner of Higher Education  
1201 N. Third Street, Suite 6-200  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802.

Re: Letter of Intent to provide products and/or services

Dear Dr. Clausen,

Thank you for allowing Global Data Systems to serve the Louisiana Board of Regents in the delivery and deployment of technology based solutions in your pursuant of the Federal Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program in the formation and implementation of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance - Infrastructure Project (Easygrants ID: 2239). We believe this project to be a significant enabler in the accomplishment of the goal of deploying broadband infrastructure in underserved areas of Louisiana. It is in this effort that Global Data Systems, Inc. (GDS) would like to provide you with this letter of intent that will provide you with the following:

1. Cisco Systems Inc. networking equipment in support of The Louisiana Optical Network Initiative
2. Pre-procurement technical support.
3. Product delivery status and notification
4. Equipment installation service(s)
5. Payment and terms as agreed to via Louisiana State Contract# 407245.
6. End user support as outlined by related product maintenance agreement(s).

Global Data Systems, Inc. is the current holder of Louisiana State Contract# 407245 and will supply the requested Cisco solution as outlined via this agreement at the associated price point as agreed upon at time of purchase.

Please see attached supporting documentation demonstrating our status as stated contract holder and credit ability to deliver on this solution.

Thanks again for this opportunity and have a great day,

Regards,

  
Patrick Leigh  
Account Manager  
225-235-6038

**Global Data Systems, Inc.-Product Financing Line of Credit**

Global Data has a product financing arrangement with Castle Pines Capital, LLC (CPC, LLC) providing financing of up to \$11,000,000 for the purchase of certain products and equipment for resale from Cisco, Inc.

The lines are comprised of an \$8,000,000 "CPC Main Line" and a \$3,000,000 "CPC E-Rate Line".

Both lines can be increased upon request, if needed, based on business activity.

INFORMATION DISCLOSED IS CONFIDENTIAL AND PROPRIETARY.

Contract # 407245 CISCO BRAND NAME NETWORKING PRODUCTS STATE CONTRACT

T-number: 92531 - NETWORKING - CISCO BN

Co-op Procure : Y

Effective From - To: 09/19/2007 - 03/18/2010

Minimum Order Amt : \$ 0.00

Payment Terms : NONE

Delivery Weeks ARO : 0 Delivery Days ARO: Delivery Terms: AS SPECIFIED

Ship-To Code : R0 (STATEWIDE DELIVERY)

Available on eCat : Non-eCat P-card Enabled: No

---

Vendor Number: 72111370700

GLOBAL DATA SYSTEMS INC

STE 111

537 CAJUNDOME BLVD

LAFAYETTE, LA 70506

Contact : CHRIS VINCENT

Phone : (337) 291-6547

---

Distributors?: N

---

Contract Notes:

"CONTRACTOR AGREES TO LAC 34.I.1709".

PERCENTAGE DISCOUNT OFF THE MANUFACTURER'S MOST RECENT PUBLISHED PRICE LIST/ CATALOG OR THE NOTARIZED TYPED LISTING OF RETAIL PRICES. THE DISCOUNT PERCENT QUOTED SHALL ESTABLISH THE MINIMUM LEVEL OF REDUCED PRICING OFFERED TO THE STATE IN THIS CATEGORY FROM THE MOST RECENT PUBLISHED PRICE LIST/ CATALOG OR THE NOTARIZED TYPED LISTING OF RETAIL PRICES, THROUGHOUT THE CONTRACT PERIOD.

CONTACT PERSON: PATRICK LEIGH PH: (225) 928-5530 OR (337) 291-9494

THE USING AGENCY IS TO CONTACT THE VENDOR AND REQUEST A QUOTE. THE QUOTE MUST CONTAIN THE COMPANY LOGO/NAME, PRODUCT/ITEM #, RETAIL PRICE COMPLETE DESCRIPTION, CONTACT NAME & PHONE NO., CATEGORY IN WHICH PRODUCT FALLS INTO, STATE PRICE. THE QUOTE MUST NOT CONTAIN ANY ADDITIONAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS OR AGREEMENTS. AGENCIES ARE TO VERIFY THE CORRECT PERCENTAGE DISCOUNT IS BEING GIVEN ON THE QUOTE.

---

Contract Line Detail

Line #	Commodity #	UOM	Unit Price	Discount	From - To Qty	Effective From - To
00001	204-64-120749	DISC	\$ 0.00	42.00	1.000 -	

Brand Model Ship-to Code R0 (STATEWIDE DELIVERY)

Delivery Weeks ARO 0

Delivery Days ARO 0

Delivery Terms:



# Franklin Parish Library

**Main Branch**  
705 Prairie Street  
Winnsboro, LA 71295  
(318) 435-4336

FAX (318) 435-1990

**Wisner Branch**  
P.O. Box 2  
Wisner, LA 71378  
(318) 724-7333

*Printing again 1/15/09 C.F.*

DATE: *12/29/09*

TO: *Lonnie Leger - Director of Networking*

FAX NUMBER: *225-578-3434 LSU-*

FROM: *Carolyn Flint*

SUBJECT: *Broadband Initiatives Program*

NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER SHEET: *2*

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Franklin Parish Library  
705 Prairie Street  
Winnsboro, LA 71295  
318-435-4336**

December 28, 2009

Dr. Sally Clausen  
Commissioner of Higher Education  
1201 N. Third Street, Suite 6-200  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Dear Dr. Clausen

The Franklin Parish Library expects to be a customer of broadband infrastructure technology at the data rate of 10 Mbps within the next three years.

Pursuant to successful awards by the Federal Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program to the Louisiana Board of Regents for the formation and implementation of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance – Infrastructure Project, we believe this project (Easygrants ID: 2239) to be a significant enabler in the accomplishment of this plan.

With the formation of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance, Franklin Parish Library may consider utilizing this structure for broadband access to its peers, national networks as well as internet access.

Sincerely,

  
Carolyn Flint, Director

# *East Carroll Parish Library*

109 Sparrow Street  
Lake Providence, Louisiana 71254

318-559-2615

Renée T. Whatley  
Librarian

January 3, 2010

Dr. Sally Clausen  
Commissioner of Higher Education  
1201 N. Third Street, Suite 6-200  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802.

Dear Dr. Clausen:

The East Carroll Parish Library expects to be a customer of broadband infrastructure technology at the data rate of at least 10 Mbps within the next three years.

Pursuant to successful awards by the Federal Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program to the Louisiana Board of Regents for the formation and implementation of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance - Infrastructure Project, we believe this project (Easygrants ID: 2239) to be a significant enabler in the accomplishment of this plan.

With the formation of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance, the East Carroll Parish Library may consider utilizing this structure for broadband access to its peers, national networks as well as internet access.

Sincerely,



Renee T. Whatley, Director



# Coushatta Tribe

Of Louisiana

---

Heritage Department

January 27, 2010

Dr. Sally Clausen  
Commissioner of Higher Education  
1201 N. Third Street, Suite 6-200  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802.

Dear Dr. Clausen,

The Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana anticipates utilizing the LONI broadband infrastructure technology at data rates as high as 30 Gbps within the next three years. As a long term partner with the State of Louisiana and the Board of Regents, the Tribe is eager to be a part of the State's overall broadband infrastructure and excited about the endless possibilities this broadband connectivity would represent. Opportunities for distance education, the preservation of Koasati language, video conferencing, and Tribal internet business incubation are just some of the proposed uses of this broadband infrastructure. This new connectivity would allow the Tribe to maximize learning opportunities for all tribal members regardless of distance.

Pursuant to successful awards by the Federal Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program to the Louisiana Board of Regents for the formation and implementation of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance - Infrastructure Project, we believe this project (Easygrants ID: 2239) to be a significant enabler in the accomplishment of this plan.

With the formation of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance, the Coushatta Tribe of Louisiana could potentially utilize this infrastructure for broadband connectivity to other American Indian tribes as well as provide high speed internet access to Coushatta tribal members.

Sincerely,  
*Bertney Langley*  
Executive Administrator

Kowasaaton Nathihilkas - *Let us speak Koasati*

---

# *Concordia Parish Library*

CLAYTON LIBRARY  
P.O. BOX 100  
CLAYTON, LA 71326  
757-6460

1609 THIRD STREET  
FERRIDAY, LA 71334  
(318) 757-3550

VIDALIA LIBRARY  
408 TEXAS STREET  
VIDALIA, LA 71373  
336-5043

December 23, 2009

Dr. Sally Clausen  
Commissioner of Higher Education  
1201 N. Third Street, Suite 6-200  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802.

Dear Dr. Clausen,

Concordia Parish Library expects to be a customer of broadband infrastructure technology at the data rate of 100 Mbps within the next three years.

Pursuant to successful awards by the Federal Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program to the Louisiana Board of Regents for the formation and implementation of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance - Infrastructure Project, we believe this project (Easygrants ID: 2239) to be a significant enabler in the accomplishment of this plan.

With the formation of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance, Concordia Parish Library may consider utilizing this structure for broadband access to its peers, national networks as well as internet access.

Sincerely,

Amanda Taylor, Director  
Concordia Parish Library

December 23, 2009

Attn: Mr. Lonnie Leger, LONI – Director of Networking

Ref: Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program

Applicant Organization: State of Louisiana Board of Regents

Applicant Name: Dr. Sally Clausen

Easygrants ID: 2239

Project Title: Louisiana Broadband Alliance – Infrastructure Project

Mr. Leger,

Com-Net Services, Inc. is sending this letter of intent to provide you with a cost estimate that is structured as an “economy of scale” for a single mile of rural construction of a 144 strand fiber optic network.

Com-Net Services, Inc. (CNS) is a Louisiana Corporation formed in August 1997 as a wholly owned subsidiary of THE NEWTRON GROUP, INC. (NGI).

Our parent company, NGI is a privately owned Louisiana corporation, formed in 1973, with its headquarters in Baton Rouge. NGI is a holding company with ten operating subsidiaries and or divisions. NGI’s largest subsidiaries, Newtron, Inc. and Triad Electric & Controls, Inc., are among the leading companies in the country in industrial instrumentation, control systems and electrical contracting field. At any given time NGI companies have major projects underway across the country from California to Maine. Depending upon project requirements, NGI and its subsidiaries have between 2000 and 3000 employees at any given time. On a consolidated basis, NGI’s annual contract volume was over \$385 million last year.

NGI is committed to maintaining a strong financial base with a net worth in excess of \$46 million. The company has maintained an excellent thirty-five year banking relationship with Chase and its predecessors. Any requirements for bonding projects are handled under the company’s \$100 million bonding line provided by Liberty Bond Services through the Cory, Tucker & Larowe, Inc. agency.

As a parent company, NGI provides all of the banking, bonding, insurance, accounting, employee benefits, legal, administrative and other services required by each of its subsidiaries. In addition, CNS and each of NGI’s subsidiaries have the support of the financial resources of the parent company and are able to draw upon the combined talent, knowledge and experience of the entire organization.

While CNS may be considered a relatively young company, the thirty-five year history of NGI’s leadership in the highly sophisticated industrial instrumentation and control system field provides the heritage and background as CNS moves forward in the rapidly emerging data and fiber-optic cabling field.



The following is a list of assumptions that was followed to come up with our price:

1. All directional boring with a 1.5" roll conduit
2. A 144 strand single mode fiber optic cable installed in the conduit
3. The fiber will be installed with a tracer wire
4. Hand holes will be placed at the proper intervals
5. The cable will be terminated every 50 to 60 miles
6. The cable will be spliced at about 40,000 feet intervals (the length of cable on a reel)

Cost estimate for the above referenced project per rural mile is.....\$60,000.00

The above information that includes the pricing for this project and all of the financial information for CNS and NGI is confidential. The Recipient shall limit disclosure of Confidential Information within its own organization to its directors, officers, partners, members, and employees. The Recipient and affiliates will not disclose the confidential information obtained from this document unless required to do so by law.

Sincerely,

Vincent Thibodaux, RCDD/OSP  
Com-Net Services, Inc  
Office (225) 928-1231  
Fax (225) 928-1249  
E-mail vince@comnetserv.com



Cisco Systems, Inc.  
170 W. Tasman Drive  
San Jose, CA 95134-1706  
<http://www.cisco.com>

January 14, 2010

Dr. Sally Clausen  
Commissioner of Higher Education  
Louisiana Board of Regents  
1201 N. Third Street, Suite 6-200  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Dear Dr. Clausen,

Cisco Systems, Inc. ("Cisco") is pleased to respond to the Louisiana Board of Regents request in the Board's pursuit of the Federal Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program in the formation and implementation of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance - Infrastructure Project (Easygrants ID: 2239). Cisco believes this project can be a significant enabler in the accomplishment of the goal of deploying broadband infrastructure in underserved areas of Louisiana.

For this opportunity, Cisco would like to confirm the following:

1. The Cisco Catalyst 6500 and optical 15454 products that were submitted with your grant will be available (e.g. not reach Cisco end of sale) for a three (3) year period from the date of this letter (the "Term").
2. Cisco engineers reviewed the proposed design that you submitted with your grant and support the architecture as Cisco understands the requirements.
3. Cisco will make its products available for purchase through the contracting vehicle of the Board's choice within the state of Louisiana during the Term, assuming that the product families in section 1 above are offered on the contract.

Cisco shares the Louisiana Board of Regents vision in deploying broadband to assist the community. Cisco is committed to Louisiana Board of Regents long-term success in this effort.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dana Giampetroni".

Dana Giampetroni  
Director of Finance, U.S. Public Sector  
Cisco Systems, Inc.

January 28, 2010

Dr. Sally Clausen  
Commissioner of Higher Education  
1201 N. Third Street, Suite 6-200  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Dr. Clausen,

In response to the Federal Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program in the formation and implementation of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance – Infrastructure Project (Easygrants ID: 2239).

LightCore welcomes the opportunity to participate in offering last mile services to Schools, Libraries and Healthcare entities within our on-net service area.

LightCore is a wholly owned subsidiary of CenturyLink and our organization is focused on supporting CenturyLink's Wholesale IXC network. We own and operate a fiber optic network that covers 17 states with 17,000 route miles of fiber.

CenturyLink is the fourth largest local exchange carrier offering an array of integrated communications products and services to rural and small city markets. We have operations in 33 states with approximately 7.5 million access lines, 2.1 million broadband customers and approximately 470,000 video subscribers.

Thank you,



Stephen Hartman  
Vice President – Carrier Sales



Dr. Sally Clausen  
Commissioner of Higher Education  
1201 N. Third Street, Suite 6-200  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802.

Catahoula Parish Library expects to be a customer of broadband infrastructure technology at the data rate of 10 Mbps within the next three years.

Pursuant to successful awards by the Federal Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program to the Louisiana Board of Regents for the formation and implementation of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance – Infrastructure Project, we believe this project (Easygrants ID: 2239) to be a significant enabler in the accomplishment of this plan.

With the formation of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance, Catahoula Parish Library may consider utilizing this structure for broadband access to its peers, national networks as well as Internet access.

Sincerely,

Wayne Spence



# Calcasieu Parish Public Library

## Administrative Office

301 West Claude Street  
Lake Charles, Louisiana 70605-3457  
Phone: (337) 721-7147 • Fax: (337) 475-8806

**Michael Sawyer**  
Director

December 22, 2009

Lonnie Leger  
LONI - Director of Networking  
Louisiana State University  
200 Computing Services Center  
Baton Rouge, LA 70803

Dear Mr. Leger:

Calcasieu Parish Public Library expects to be a customer of broadband infrastructure technology at the data rate of 100 Mbps+ within the next three years.

Pursuant to successful awards by the Federal Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program to the Louisiana Board of Regents for the formation and implementation of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance - Infrastructure Project, we believe this project (Easygrants ID: 2239) to be a significant enabler in the accomplishment of this plan.

With the formation of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance, and, when services are expanded to include Southwest Louisiana, Calcasieu Parish Public Library may consider utilizing this structure for broadband access to its peers, national networks as well as internet access.

Sincerely,

Michael Sawyer  
Director  
Calcasieu Parish Public Library  
301 W. Claude St.  
Lake Charles, LA 70605  
Ph. (337) 721-7147  
Fax (337) 475-8806  
Email: [msawyer@calcasieu.lib.la.us](mailto:msawyer@calcasieu.lib.la.us)  
Library website: <http://calcasieulibrary.org>



January 14, 2010

Dr. Sally Clausen  
Commissioner of Higher Education  
1201 N. Third Street, Suite 6-200  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802.

Dear Dr. Clausen,

The relationship between the Board of Regents of the State of Louisiana and AT&T has a documented history of providing statewide benefits for data connectivity across the State of Louisiana. We understand that your current Federal Broadband Technology Opportunities Program and Broadband Initiatives Program grant request in the formation and implementation of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance - Infrastructure Project (Easygrants ID: 2239) provides an opportunity for additional fiber infrastructure to anchor tenants in 21 parishes in rural Louisiana including those in the Louisiana delta region and four federally recognized Native American tribal lands.

We believe the Louisiana Broadband Alliance – Infrastructure Project will further these statewide benefits in several ways:

- 1) Anchor tenants will provide public access to the Internet for individuals who may not have access today.
- 2) Residents and businesses that are on the path of the fiber construction may gain additional opportunities for access to high speed bandwidth.
- 3) Planned equipment upgrades will enable greater bandwidths.
- 4) Planned enhancements to the infrastructure may allow residents and businesses higher bandwidth throughput outside of their town or village.

We understand these planned enhancements will reach 21 rural parishes with a population over 99,000 households and will mostly provide connections to anchor tenants. We understand these parishes may be less likely to see fiber upgrades without an anchor tenant such as the Board of Regents of the State of Louisiana.

AT&T and Cisco have a rich tradition of working together to support public sector entities. AT&T was named Public Sector Service Provider of the year by Cisco at the Cisco Partner Summit in June 2009 and is a Cisco Gold Partner. AT&T has a line of credit with Cisco that exceeds \$17M, and under our existing agreement with the Louisiana Department of Education, we can offer Cisco equipment to help facilitate delivery of broadband services. These broadband services will allow anchor institutions to take advantage of the benefits of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance – Infrastructure Project.





We greatly value the relationship we have with the Board of Regents of the State of Louisiana and look forward to our continued work with you in providing enhanced access to information through out the State.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Debbie Griffith".

Debbie Griffith  
Regional Vice President  
AT&T



January 14, 2010

Dr. Sally Clausen  
Commissioner of Higher Education  
1201 N. Third Street, Suite 6-200  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802.

Dear Dr. Clausen,

AT&T has been working with the Board of Regents of the State of Louisiana for many years to provide data connectivity across the State of Louisiana. We understand that your current Federal Broadband Technology Opportunities Program and Broadband Initiatives Program grant request in the formation and implementation of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance - Infrastructure Project (Easygrants ID: 2239) provides an opportunity for additional fiber infrastructure to anchor tenants in 21 parishes in rural Louisiana including those in the Louisiana delta region and four federally recognized Native American tribal lands.

We understand these planned enhancements will reach 21 rural parishes with a population over 99,000 households and will mostly be used to provide connections to anchor tenants. We understand these parishes may be less likely to see fiber upgrades without an anchor tenant such as the Board of Regents of the State of Louisiana.

AT&T provides many broadband services to business and residential customers. These services are standards-based and are often interconnected with other public or private networks, such as the proposed network outlined in Louisiana Broadband Alliance – Infrastructure Project. AT&T offers advanced Ethernet services (Metro Ethernet) to anchor institutions as part of our existing agreements with the Louisiana Department of Education and the Louisiana Office of Telecommunications Management to facilitate delivery of broadband services. These services and their ability to interconnect with the proposed middle mile network will allow anchor institutions to take advantage of the benefits of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance – Infrastructure Project.

We greatly value the relationship we have with the Board of Regents of the State of Louisiana and look forward to our continued work with you in providing enhanced access to information through out the State.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Debbie Griffith".

Debbie Griffith  
Regional Vice President  
AT&T



**ALLEN PARISH  
LIBRARIES**

Headquarters: Post Office Box 400  
Oberlin, Louisiana 70655 • 800-960-3015

**FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION SHEET**

**COVER SHEET**

**DATE OF TRANSMISSION:** 12/28/2009

**ATTENTION:** Lonnie Leger

**COMPANY:** \_\_\_\_\_

**FAX NUMBER:** 1-225-578-3434

**FROM:** Karen Teigen

**SENT FROM FAX NUMBER:** (337)639-2654

**SUBJECT:** Letter supporting Louisiana Broadband Alliance project

**NUMBER OF PAGES** 2 **(INCLUDING THIS PAGE)**

**PLEASE CALL (337) 639-4315 IF TRANSMISSION IS NOT CLEAR**

Oberlin  
337-639-4315

Branch Locations:  
Oakdale  
318-335-2690

Kinder  
337-738-2126



# ALLEN PARISH LIBRARIES

Headquarters: Post Office Box 400  
Oberlin, Louisiana 70655 • 800-960-3015

Dec. 28, 2009

Dr. Sally Clausen  
Commissioner of Higher Education  
1201 N. Third Street, Suite 6-200  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802.

Dear Dr. Clausen:

Allen Parish Libraries expects to be a customer of broadband infrastructure technology at the data rate of 6 Mbps within the next three years.

Pursuant to successful awards by the Federal Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program to the Louisiana Board of Regents for the formation and implementation of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance - Infrastructure Project, we believe this project (Easygrants ID: 2239) to be a significant enabler in the accomplishment of this plan.

With the formation of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance, Allen Parish Libraries may consider utilizing this structure for broadband access to its peers, national networks as well as internet access.

Sincerely,

*Karen Teigen*

Karen Teigen  
Director

Branch Locations:

—	—	—
Oberlin 337-639-4315	Oakdale 318-335-2690	Kinder 337-738-2126

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1804

September 3, 2009

The Honorable Lawrence E. Strickling  
Administrator  
National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
HCHB, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20230

**RE: Landrieu Project No. 999809**

Always refer to the Landrieu Project No. when communicating with this office.

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

I am writing on behalf of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance, which has submitted a proposal to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP).

It is a pleasure for me to inform you of my support for the Louisiana Broadband Alliance's application. This project will address the lack of cost-effective, reliable, and high speed broadband Internet in the rural areas of Louisiana. It is my understanding that the proposal includes an infrastructure component, a Sustainable Adoption program and a Public Computer Center program. The first program will expand the high-speed Louisiana Optical Network Initiative (LONI) to hospitals, schools, libraries and community centers in rural Louisiana. The second program will create an awareness campaign to promote and sustain broadband adoption. Lastly, the Public Computer Centers Program will provide community-based technology centers in the 17 targeted parishes. I would note that this proposal is a unique collaboration of the Louisiana Department of Education, Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals, Louisiana Educational Television Authority, Louisiana State University Agricultural Center's Delta Rural Development Center, and the Louisiana Geographic Information Center.

I believe you will find the application to be exemplary in every way, and I would appreciate that you give it every appropriate consideration, within the applicable guidelines, during the review. In closing, I ask for any information that you may now provide on this matter and look forward to hearing from you about the final decision. Should you have any questions, please contact me or my Projects Director, Tanner Johnson, at (202) 224-5824.

Thanking you in advance for your consideration and with warmest regards, I am

Sincerely,



Mary L. Landrieu

United States Senator



August 13, 2009

Louisiana Broadband Alliance



Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am pleased to support to your proposal to engage disadvantaged agricultural producers within the Louisiana Delta Initiative (LDI) twelve parish region to provide access to computer equipment and technical assistance. I understand that the program will introduce small and disadvantaged businesses and organizations like Parishes for Farm Prosperity to the LA ePortal where LBA will provide educational products on subjects such as marketing that will benefit agricultural producers.

As an Extension Agent working with small farmers and community development for 15 years, I am excited that this proposal affords us an opportunity to create enhanced learning experiences on how to use broadband technology to improve their operations and boost profits. It will blend closely with our efforts to implement a comprehensive educational rural development program.

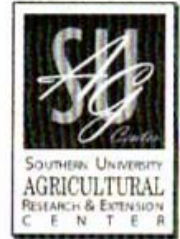
Socially and economically disadvantaged producers and businesses in the Louisiana Delta region need all of the educational opportunities and technical assistance our organization and others can provide to be competitive in this fast-paced ever-changing business climate.

The Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center and the LSU AgCenter's working relationship has been a winning formula for providing high quality relevant educational programs to the agricultural industry of Louisiana. I look forward to continued progress, as we implement this ambitious project.

Sincerely yours,

Glenn E. Dixon  
Associate Area Agent  
East/West Carroll Parish  
502 First Street  
Lake Providence, LA 71254

318 559-0060 East Carroll  
318 428-3571 West Carroll  
318 559-3125 Fax  
<http://www.suagcenter.com>  
[http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/our\\_offices/parishes/East+Carroll](http://www.lsuagcenter.com/en/our_offices/parishes/East+Carroll)



**East Carroll Parish**  
502 First Street  
Lake Providence, Louisiana 71254  
(318)559-1459  
(318)559-0060  
Fax: (318)559-3125  
Visit our Web sites:  
[www.lsuagcenter.com](http://www.lsuagcenter.com)  
[www.suagcenter.com](http://www.suagcenter.com)

**Research and Extension Programs**  
Agriculture  
Economic/Community Development  
Environment/Natural Resources  
Families/Nutrition/Health  
4-H Youth Programs

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1804

September 3, 2009

The Honorable Lawrence E. Strickling  
Administrator  
National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
HCHB, Room 4812  
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20230

**RE: Landrieu Project No. 999809**

Always refer to the Landrieu Project No. when communicating with this office.

Dear Assistant Secretary Strickling:

I am writing on behalf of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance, which has submitted a proposal to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP).

It is a pleasure for me to inform you of my support for the Louisiana Broadband Alliance's application. This project will address the lack of cost-effective, reliable, and high speed broadband Internet in the rural areas of Louisiana. It is my understanding that the proposal includes an infrastructure component, a Sustainable Adoption program and a Public Computer Center program. The first program will expand the high-speed Louisiana Optical Network Initiative (LONI) to hospitals, schools, libraries and community centers in rural Louisiana. The second program will create an awareness campaign to promote and sustain broadband adoption. Lastly, the Public Computer Centers Program will provide community-based technology centers in the 17 targeted parishes. I would note that this proposal is a unique collaboration of the Louisiana Department of Education, Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals, Louisiana Educational Television Authority, Louisiana State University Agricultural Center's Delta Rural Development Center, and the Louisiana Geographic Information Center.

I believe you will find the application to be exemplary in every way, and I would appreciate that you give it every appropriate consideration, within the applicable guidelines, during the review. In closing, I ask for any information that you may now provide on this matter and look forward to hearing from you about the final decision. Should you have any questions, please contact me or my Projects Director, Tanner Johnson, at (202) 224-5824.

Thanking you in advance for your consideration and with warmest regards, I am

Sincerely,



Mary L. Landrieu

United States Senator



August 13, 2009

Mr. Lawrence E. Strickling  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20230

**Re: Rural Utilities Services  
Broadband Infrastructure Program  
and  
National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
Broadband Technology Opportunities Program**

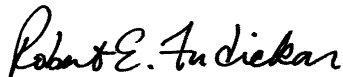
**“Louisiana Broadband Alliance – Infrastructure, Sustainable Broadband Adoption and  
Public Computer Center Applications”**

Dear Mr. Strickling:

Louisiana Broadband Alliance (LBA) is seeking funds to create a new pipeline, and add to the existing LONI fiber pipeline for the next-generation of content delivery and workforce training in the Louisiana Delta. I am writing today to express my support for the LBA grant application to the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Telecommunications and Information Administration and the Department of Agriculture's Rural Utilities Services.

I have a great interest in this topic because of the mission of the Louisiana Economic Development, and the many possibilities that come along with this project. This grant goes hand-in-hand with what we are trying to accomplish through technology. Many of the private technology companies that work with LED, including AT&T, are also supportive of the LBA project.

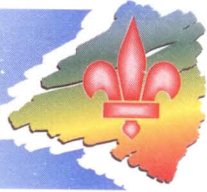
Sincerely,



Robert E. Fudickar  
Louisiana Economic Development  
Director, Technology Industry

Dr. Chiao  
Page 2  
August 12, 2009

LAFAYETTE  
CONSOLIDATED  
GOVERNMENT



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

L. J. "JOEY" DUREL, JR.  
CITY-PARISH PRESIDENT

705 W. UNIVERSITY AVENUE  
P. O. BOX 4017-C  
LAFAYETTE, LOUISIANA 70502  
TEL: (337) 291-8300  
FAX: (337) 291-8399  
e-mail: jdurel@lafayettegov.net

August 10, 2009

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Mr. Strickling,

I am writing today to express my support for the Louisiana Broadband Alliance (LBA) grant application to the U.S. Department of Commerce, National Telecommunications and Information Administration and the Department of Agriculture's Rural Utilities Services to meet with broadband initiatives contained in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

The Louisiana Broadband Alliance (LBA), representing PreK-12 education, libraries, healthcare providers, community colleges and higher education, public broadcasting, and public safety entities is submitting a grant application on behalf of the State agencies represented and the Louisiana Broadband Advisory Council.

In addition to seeking funds to digitize content for broadband delivery to classrooms, libraries, and community centers across the state, they are seeking funds to create a pipeline for next-generation content and workforce training that will prepare our students for the 21st Century workforce. I have a great interest in this topic because of our Lafayette Utilities System Fiber initiative, and the many possibilities that come along with the initiative. I feel that this grant goes hand-in-hand with what we are trying to accomplish in Lafayette through technology.

Thank you in advance for strongly considering this application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Joey Durel". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

L.J. "Joey" Durel, Jr.  
City-Parish President  
Lafayette Consolidated Government

Centre de la Culture Acadienne et Créole  
Center of Acadian and Creole Culture

CHARLIE MELANCON  
3RD DISTRICT, LOUISIANA



WASHINGTON OFFICE:  
404 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
(202) 225-4031

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY  
AND COMMERCE  
COMMITTEE ON  
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

DISTRICT OFFICES:  
8201 WEST JUDGE PEREZ DRIVE  
CHALMETTE, LA 70043  
(504) 271-1707  
828 SOUTH IRMA BLVD., SUITE 107  
GONZALES, LA 70737  
(225) 621-8490  
423 LAFAYETTE STREET, SUITE 107  
HOUMA, LA 70360  
(985) 876-3033  
124 EAST MAIN STREET  
SUITE 220-A  
NEW IBERIA, LA 70560  
(337) 367-8231

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

August 14, 2009

Lawrence E. Strickling  
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 Mr. Strickling:

Residents of Louisiana rank in the bottom 20% of internet connectivity, putting our citizens at a distinct disadvantage in competing and advancing in the information age. Our students struggle against poverty to gain the education they need to succeed. This is why I support the work of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program grant proposal.

The grant will fund the acquisition of video conferencing, multimedia and broadband related equipment to provide workforce development, continuing education, and outreach services through web-based resources at schools and community centers. It will also fund the creation of educational and instructional content that addresses the curriculum needs of pre-school through college student as well as the workforce, professional development and continuing education needs of the community. It will make possible the creation of a content delivery service that will allow for storage and distribution of educational and instructional content to community anchor institutions and broadband distribution to the community at large.

A key element of this proposal is the partnership among several State of Louisiana agencies working together on behalf of the citizens to meet the broadband initiatives contained in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

It is my pleasure to support this proposal and hope you will view it favorably as well.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charlie Melancon".

Charlie Melancon  
Member of Congress

**RODNEY ALEXANDER**  
5TH DISTRICT, LOUISIANA

**WASHINGTON**  
316 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
(202) 225-8490  
FAX: (202) 225-5639



COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS  
SUBCOMMITTEES:  
AGRICULTURE  
FINANCIAL SERVICES  
COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**

August 19, 2009

Lawrence E. Strickling  
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 Mr. Strickling:

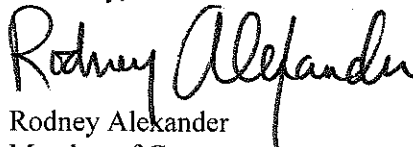
Residents of Louisiana rank in the bottom 20% of internet connectivity, putting our citizens at a distinct disadvantage in competing and advancing in the information age. Our students struggle against poverty to gain the education they need to succeed. This is why I support the work of the Louisiana Broadband Alliance's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program grant proposal.

The grant will fund the acquisition of video conferencing, multimedia and broadband related equipment to provide workforce development, continuing education, and outreach services through web-based resources at schools and community centers. It will also fund the creation of educational and instructional content that addresses the curriculum needs of pre-school through college students, as well as the workforce, professional development and continuing education needs of the community. It will make possible the creation of a content delivery service that will allow for storage and distribution of educational and instructional content to community anchor institutions and broadband distribution to the community at large.

A key element of this proposal is the partnership among several State of Louisiana agencies working together on behalf of the citizens to meet the broadband initiatives contained in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

It is my pleasure to support this proposal and hope you will view it favorably as well.

Sincerely,

  
Rodney Alexander  
Member of Congress

**ALEXANDRIA**  
1412 CENTRE COURT, SUITE 402  
ALEXANDRIA, LA 71301  
(318) 445-0818  
FAX: (318) 445-3776

**MONROE**  
1900 STUBBS AVENUE, SUITE B  
MONROE, LA 71201  
(318) 322-3500  
FAX: (318) 322-3577



AT&T Business Solutions  
Government/Education  
7884 Office Park Blvd.  
Suite 200  
Baton Rouge, LA 70809

T: 225-930-7705  
F: 225-930-7873  
www.att.com

August 12, 2009

Lawrence E. Strickling  
Administrator, National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA)  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Mr. Strickling,

AT&T is pleased to provide Louisiana Broadband Alliance (LBA) vendor support. We will be happy to provide information pertaining to AT&T that may help you prepare a proposal as described in the Broadband Technologies Opportunity Program and Rural Utilities Service Notice of Funding Availability.

Through the effective use of technology, LBA will be able to support multiple economic development efforts related to workforce development, continuing education in the community, as well as enhance learning opportunities for Pre-K - 20 students in the State of Louisiana. AT&T has knowledge of industry best practices and has proven expertise in technologies such as video conferencing, web-based collaboration tools, content hosting, and industry-recognized service and support for tele-learning and telemedicine.

AT&T would also like to support LBA's broadband deployment efforts by providing the necessary connectivity to your community anchor institutions. To further support your Broadband Adoption efforts, AT&T proudly offers our broad suite of mobility products and services, including mobility-enabled Netbooks, which could be used within the community centers, in the schools and in the homes. Students and citizens using these mobile assets will be able to gain access to instructional content and curriculum offered by the State of Louisiana or any other source deemed appropriate.

We will be happy to provide any information we can reasonably provide, subject to proprietary and confidentiality restrictions. AT&T recognizes that the use of any stimulus monies that you receive will be at your discretion, subject to any legal and regulatory requirements that may apply to you. In rendering the assistance you have requested, AT&T has no expectation that it will receive favorable treatment in connection with LBA spending decisions.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Debbie B. Griffith".

Debbie B. Griffith  
Regional Vice-President



R. Kent Davis, Superintendent

Donald R. Gwin, District 2, President

# WEST CARROLL PARISH SCHOOLS

314 EAST MAIN STREET

OAK GROVE, LA 71263

(318) 428-2378

Fax: (318) 428-3775

C.T. Rawls, District 1  
Kathy McAllister, District 3  
J. Kelly Coleman, District 4

J.T. Martin, District 5  
Raymond Desselle, District 6  
Jerry Gathings, District 7

Lawrence E. Strickling

Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information

Herbert C. Hoover Building (HCHB)

U.S. Department of Commerce / NTIA

1401 Constitution Avenue, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Mr. Strickling:

West Carroll Parish Schools is pleased to support the Louisiana Broadband Alliance (LBA) - Infrastructure Project (Easy grants ID: 2239) application submitted in response to the Federal Broadband Initiatives Program and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program. With approval of this application, Louisiana and our school district will be able to have access to 21<sup>st</sup> century educational tools and resources, provide global learning opportunities and better prepare our students to compete in the global marketplace.

Without this funding our district would not have access to this level of fiber infrastructure at reasonable rates which would make broadband affordable for both our school system and our student population.

I strongly urge you to fund this grant request in order to better our schools, our students, our state and our nation.

Sincerely,



Kent Davis, Superintendent

West Carroll Parish Schools