

Mike Crapo  
United States Senator  
239 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg.  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Jim Risch  
United States Senator  
483 Russell Senate Office Bldg.  
Washington, D.C. 20510



Mike Simpson  
Member of Congress  
2312 Rayburn House Office Bldg.  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Raul Labrador  
Member of Congress  
1523 Longworth House Office Bldg.  
Washington, D.C. 20515

February, 14, 2013

Julius Genachowski, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

In November 2011, under your leadership, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) began a multi-year transformation of the Universal Service Fund (USF) and intercarrier compensation, creating the Connect America Fund (CAF). We are writing today concerned that the promises of CAF remain unfulfilled. Idahoans pay into this fund each month with the expectation that the FCC will fulfill its mission to connect rural America. If our constituents are asked to pay into this fund, it is the obligation of the FCC to meet its goal to invest the allotted funds in a way that will meet the needs of the thousands of Idahoans in price-cap territories that remain without broadband service.

The Commission hailed CAF as paving the way for millions of dollars in new broadband investments in Idaho, giving it the ability to connect more than 2,000 previously unserved locations. Unfortunately, the FCC's overly prescriptive eligibility criteria in 2012 restricted broadband deployment, passing over hundreds of households despite available funds. So far, the FCC has yet to uphold its end of the deal and adequate broadband service remains unavailable to rural Idahoans.

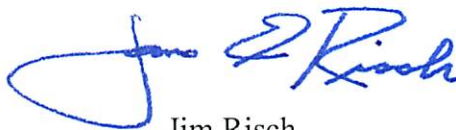
Broadband is an economic driver providing access to educational opportunities, remote healthcare applications, as well as online commerce and entertainment. Applications relying on a robust broadband infrastructure are now essential in agricultural markets, for emerging small businesses and for attracting new businesses to invest in Idaho. It is vital to Idahoans that the commission ensures these funds are dedicated to improving the broadband infrastructure that will help revitalize rural America.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

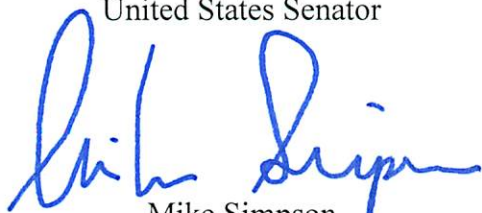
Sincerely,



Mike Crapo  
United States Senator



Jim Risch  
United States Senator



Mike Simpson  
Member of Congress



Raul Labrador  
Member of Congress