

County of Lassen BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



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April 28, 2020

Mr. Rob Osbourn
Director, Communications Division
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Mr. Osbourn and the California Advanced Services Fund:

On behalf of the Lassen County Board of Supervisors, I am writing to ask for your support and the approval of Plumas-Sierra Telecommunication's application for California Advance Services Funds (CASF) to provide last-mile broadband services.

This project is vitally important to bridge the digital divide for 811 unserved CASF-eligible households with high speed and high quality broadband internet service in Lassen County.

The project consists of 110 miles of middle-mile (backbone) fiber optics and 144 miles of fiber-to-the-home lines. The project would allow to provide internet service to customers with speeds from 15 Mbps downstream and 8Mbps upstream to up to 1 Gbps symmetrical.

Access to high-speed Internet in rural California, especially rural and remote areas of Lassen County, is not available. This project is essential. It will have numerous positive effects on the lives of many Californians in Lassen County and for the community. The educational opportunities with high quality broadband is immense. Compared to urban areas with high-speed internet service and access, parents and students in rural areas are at an educational disadvantage. It also supports telemedicine and emergency personnel depend on internet-based communications – as well as many government services are increasingly becoming only available online. Many kinds of businesses simply cannot do business without high quality broadband.

We ask that the Commission fund this project to make high quality broadband available to these 811 households, area institutions, and community.

Sincerely,

DAVID TEETER, Chairman
Lassen County Board of Supervisors

CC: Assemblywoman Megan Dahle
Senator Brian Dahle