

COUNTY OF NEVADA
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



12
Nathan H. Beason
Supervisor, 1st District
Email: nate.beason@co.nevada.ca.us

September 4, 2012

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Nevada
950 Maidu Avenue
Nevada City CA 95959

DATE OF MEETING: September 18, 2012

SUBJECT: Letter to the California Public Utilities Commission supporting Spiral Internet's application to the California Advanced Services Fund for a local fiber-to-premise broadband project.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the letter.

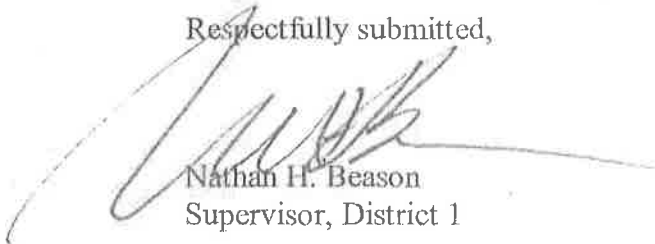
FUNDING: Not applicable

BACKGROUND:

Broadband (Internet access) has become a critical element to our local health care options, educational opportunities and economic vitality. It has become a large indicator to every community's economic and quality of life assessment. It is increasingly leveraged to provide more efficient and cost-effective public services and assist public safety personnel in serving and protecting our community. The County of Nevada has been actively supporting local broadband initiatives and efforts for over twelve years and in 2009 passed Resolution 09-106 affirming that support.

Spiral Internet, a local Internet Service Provider (ISP) is applying for California Advanced Services Fund dollars from the California Public Utilities Commission to build out local fiber optic to the premise (home/business) broadband infrastructure. This is similar to the "Nevada County Connected" middle mile project that Economic Resource Council and Spiral Internet unsuccessfully sought ARRA stimulus funding for in 2009. Towards this goal, Spiral Internet has requested a letter of support from the Board to accompany their application.

Respectfully submitted,



Nathan H. Beason
Supervisor, District 1

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COUNTY OF NEVADA
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
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Ed Scofield, 2nd District
Terry Lamphier, 3rd District
Vice Chair Wm. "Hank" Weston, 4th District
Chair Ted S. Owens, 5th District
Donna Landi, Clerk of the Board

September 18, 2012

California Advanced Services Fund
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, California 94102-3298

Dear California Public Utilities Commission Staff and Commissioners:

At a special meeting on September 18, 2012, the Nevada County Board of Supervisors voted to support Spiral Internet's application for a local fiber-to-premise broadband project.

Nevada County is one of eighteen counties in which the Central Valley Next-Generation Broadband Infrastructure Project – a middle-mile network – is being constructed as a result of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act plus matching California Advanced Services Fund (CASF) monies. Spiral Internet, a local Internet Service Provider, is fulfilling the promise of extending this fiber optic middle-mile infrastructure with a last-mile 100% fiber optic Internet access project to connect "unserved" and "underserved" homes, community anchor institutions and small businesses.

In establishing the definition of broadband connectivity as a minimum advertised speed of 6 Mbps download and 1.5 Mbps upload, the California Public Utilities Commission has paved the way for qualitatively faster Internet access in California's rural communities such as ours.

The Board of Supervisors recognizes that broadband infrastructure construction is neither feasible nor sustainable in a rural and geographically diverse community without the support of State and/or Federal funding. The economic sustainability of our community is predicated on ubiquitous and faster Internet access connectivity as we move further into the 21st Century.

In that light, we acknowledge the importance of, and overwhelmingly support the Spiral Internet "Fiber to the Home" project and its grant applications to the California Advanced Services Fund for both "unserved" and "underserved" areas.

We applaud both the California Public Utilities Commission and Spiral Internet in their effort to bring significantly faster Internet access to our communities, both residential and business, in Nevada County, California.

Sincerely,

Ted S. Owens
Chair, Board of Supervisors

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RESOLUTION No. 09-106

OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF NEVADA

RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT AND PROMOTE LOCAL BROADBAND EXPANSION, ACCESS, AND USAGE IN NEVADA COUNTY

WHEREAS, deploying broadband networks and advanced communication services throughout Nevada County will enable continued improvements in community anchor institutions of healthcare, public safety, education, schools, colleges, libraries, community support organizations, businesses, and social-networking, for the public interest; and

WHEREAS, a technology-neutral open-access approach to removing barriers to broadband deployment will encourage lower prices, creation of more local consumer choices, and a sustainable adoption of broadband service; and

WHEREAS, advanced communication services have become central to the financial health of our County as these services have increased individual worker productivity and connected Nevada County businesses to larger statewide, national and international markets; and

WHEREAS, Nevada County does not have direct access to the lower-cost high-capacity digital transport bandwidth for advanced affordable services that is increasingly available in metropolitan areas; and

WHEREAS, although Nevada County's Web content, e-commerce, video broadcasting and production, and computer software and hardware businesses have placed the County on the map as a desirable high-tech location, in order to continue to retain and attract businesses, Nevada County must adopt next-generation policies and practices that spur further broadband innovation; and

WHEREAS, County action is needed to continue investment in, stimulate adoption of, remove further barriers to, and remain competitive in the development of local world-class broadband networks; and

WHEREAS, it is a priority of the Board of Supervisors to promote widespread access to, adoption of, and new applications for local broadband networks and advanced communication services; and

WHEREAS, the Nevada County Community Broadband Leadership Council, a working group of the Nevada County Economic Resource Council that is actively supported by the County, has been working on broadband initiatives for many years; and

WHEREAS, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger issued Executive Order S-23-06, "*Twenty-First Century Government: Expanding Broadband Access and Usage in California*," making broadband a top priority for the State; and

WHEREAS, Congress passed H.R.1, "*American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009*," TITLE VI – BROADBAND TECHNOLOGY OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM, to provide access to broadband service to unserved areas, improved access to underserved areas, training for broadband adoption, and support for the general technology and community goals in this resolution that hasten the deployment of broadband; and

WHEREAS, the increased local use of broadband networks and advanced communication services will enhance government operations through telemedicine for healthcare, distance learning for education, and better coordination in the areas of public safety, as well as facilitate access for the aged, low-income, and unemployed for educational and employment opportunities and

WHEREAS, the County Geographic Information System (GIS) data and web services, in conjunction with Nevada County Economic Resource Council's "business locator" website, provides public marketing data for businesses, and Sierra Economic Development Corporation partners provide public accessible broadband availability mapping;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors, does hereby adopt this resolution and direct as follows:

1. The County of Nevada will continue to support the efforts by the Nevada County Community Broadband Leadership Council, a working group of the Nevada County Economic Resource Council, to promote local broadband initiatives; and
 - a. The County's Chief Information Officer will continue to participate on the Council, leveraging County geographic information systems, data, and resources at no charge to the Nevada County Economic Resource Council for broadband initiatives.
 - b. Within 6 months of the date of this Resolution, the Nevada County Community Broadband Leadership Council will be requested to provide a comprehensive report to the Board of Supervisors. This report shall make specific recommendations for how Nevada County can take advantage of opportunities for and eliminate any related local barriers to improved broadband access and wider adoption.
2. The Information and General Services Department (IGS) will continue to coordinate County broadband initiatives, pursuing State and Federal resources, and involve other County departments and agencies as needed. Discussions with private sector stakeholders will identify further opportunities for increasing investment in state-of-the-art technologies.
3. All public works projects shall place broadband conduit in their infrastructure projects if there is sufficient demand for the conduit and it is applicable. Conduit placed within infrastructure projects shall be designed to be used by multiple government entities and broadband providers.
4. The Community Development Agency (CDA) shall review its policies and procedures with local broadband providers in an effort to streamline right of way permitting, tower and antenna permitting, and other issues relating to broadband providers' needs and obstacles to building and deploying local infrastructure. CDA will develop a list of recommended changes for the Board of Supervisors to consider for adoption within 120 days of this Resolution, and will be in compliance with the recommendations within 60 days of their formal approval.
5. IGS shall encourage the offering of free wireless Internet access in County facilities that are most used by the public. IGS shall identify County buildings that may be appropriate for wireless Internet access and provide them information on the benefits of offering this service.

COUNTY OF NEVADA
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS



Nathan H. Beason
Supervisor, 1st District
Email: nate.beason@co.nevada.ca.us

August 3, 2015

County of Nevada
Board of Supervisors
950 Maidu Avenue
Nevada City, CA 95959

DATE OF MEETING: August 11, 2015

SUBJECT: Letter of support for Bright Fiber Network's (DBA Spiral Internet) application to the California Public Utilities Commission for a California Advanced Services Fund grant.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the attached letter.

FUNDING: Not applicable

BACKGROUND:

As the Board is aware, in September 2012, Bright Fiber Network (DBA Spiral Internet) applied for a California Advanced Services Fund grant to build a local last mile gigabit fiber-to-home broadband project in Western Nevada County. The 100% fiber optic Internet network will connect homes and businesses — from an underground network to be located along the roads — all the way to the premises.

Now, after a long and very competitive process, which included Spiral obtaining a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity ("telephone utility" status), the grant application will be coming to the California Public Utilities Commission for a vote in the next few weeks.

This project would provide state-of-the-art internet speeds to "underserved" households, community anchor and public safety institutions, and small home-based businesses. It is critical that we express to the Commission just how important this project is to our community. Therefore, I request you approve the attached letter.

Respectfully submitted,


Nathan H. Beason
Supervisor, District 1

950 Maidu Avenue, Suite 200, Nevada City CA 95959-8617
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Wm. "Hank" Weston, 4th District
Richard Anderson, 5th District

Julie Patterson Hunter,
Clerk of the Board

August 11, 2015

John Baker
Regulatory Analyst
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco CA 94102-3214

Dear Mr. Baker:

On September 18, 2012, the Nevada County Board of Supervisors approved a letter in support of the Bright Fiber Network's (DBA Spiral Internet) California Advanced Services Fund grant application to build a local last mile gigabit fiber-to-home broadband project.

It is the Board's understanding that the grant application will soon be considered by your Commission for a vote. Three years later, the need for this project's construction and deployment is much greater than it was in 2012.

The Board of Supervisors recognizes that broadband infrastructure is neither feasible nor sustainable in a rural and geographically diverse community without the support of State and/or Federal funding. The economic stability of our community is predicated on ubiquitous and much faster and scalable Internet access as we move further in to the 21st Century.

Nevada County is one of eighteen counties in California to be provided service by the Central Valley Next-Generation Broadband Infrastructure Project ("the Project") – a middle-mile network – that was constructed as a result of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act plus matching California Advanced Services Fund (CASF) grant monies. Spiral Internet is fulfilling the promise of extending the Project's network by connecting to it and thus providing last-mile service to "underserved" households, community anchor and public safety institutions, and small home-based businesses.

In this light, we acknowledge the importance of, and express our strongest support for, Spiral Internet's project and its CASF grant application to the California Public Utilities Commission.

We see nothing more critical for our rural county's economic sustainability than the Commissioners' approval of CASF funding for this project. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Edward C. Scofield
Chairman, Board of Supervisors

950 Maidu Avenue, Suite 200, Nevada City CA 95959-8617
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Julie Patterson Hunter,
Clerk of the Board

August 11, 2015

Commissioner Mike Florio
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco CA 94102-3214

Dear Commissioner Florio:

On September 18, 2012, the Nevada County Board of Supervisors approved a letter in support of the Bright Fiber Network's (DBA Spiral Internet) California Advanced Services Fund grant application to build a local last mile gigabit fiber-to-home broadband project.

It is the Board's understanding that the grant application will soon be considered by your Commission for a vote. Three years later, the need for this project's construction and deployment is much greater than it was in 2012.

The Board of Supervisors recognizes that broadband infrastructure is neither feasible nor sustainable in a rural and geographically diverse community without the support of State and/or Federal funding. The economic stability of our community is predicated on ubiquitous and much faster and scalable Internet access as we move further in to the 21st Century.

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Sincerely,

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Richard Anderson, 5th District

Julie Patterson Hunter,
Clerk of the Board

August 11, 2015

Commissioner Liane M. Randolph
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco CA 94102-3214

Dear Commissioner Randolph:

On September 18, 2012, the Nevada County Board of Supervisors approved a letter in support of the Bright Fiber Network's (DBA Spiral Internet) California Advanced Services Fund grant application to build a local last mile gigabit fiber-to-home broadband project.

It is the Board's understanding that the grant application will soon be considered by your Commission for a vote. Three years later, the need for this project's construction and deployment is much greater than it was in 2012.

The Board of Supervisors recognizes that broadband infrastructure is neither feasible nor sustainable in a rural and geographically diverse community without the support of State and/or Federal funding. The economic stability of our community is predicated on ubiquitous and much faster and scalable Internet access as we move further in to the 21st Century.

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Sincerely,

Edward C. Scofield
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Richard Anderson, 5th District

Julie Patterson Hunter,
Clerk of the Board

August 11, 2015

President Michael Picker
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco CA 94102-3214

Dear President Picker:

On September 18, 2012, the Nevada County Board of Supervisors approved a letter in support of the Bright Fiber Network's (DBA Spiral Internet) California Advanced Services Fund grant application to build a local last mile gigabit fiber-to-home broadband project.

It is the Board's understanding that the grant application will soon be considered by your Commission for a vote. Three years later, the need for this project's construction and deployment is much greater than it was in 2012.

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We see nothing more critical for our rural county's economic sustainability than the Commissioners' approval of CASF funding for this project. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Edward C. Scofield
Chairman, Board of Supervisors

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Richard Anderson, 5th District

Julie Patterson Hunter,
Clerk of the Board

August 11, 2015

Commissioner Catherine J.K. Sandoval
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco CA 94102-3214

Dear Commissioner Sandoval:

On September 18, 2012, the Nevada County Board of Supervisors approved a letter in support of the Bright Fiber Network's (DBA Spiral Internet) California Advanced Services Fund grant application to build a local last mile gigabit fiber-to-home broadband project.

It is the Board's understanding that the grant application will soon be considered by your Commission for a vote. Three years later, the need for this project's construction and deployment is much greater than it was in 2012.

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In this light, we acknowledge the importance of, and express our strongest support for, Spiral Internet's project and its CASF grant application to the California Public Utilities Commission.

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Sincerely,

Edward C. Scofield
Chairman, Board of Supervisors

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Julie Patterson Hunter,
Clerk of the Board

August 11, 2015

Commissioner Carla J. Peterman
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco CA 94102-3214

Dear Commissioner Peterman:

On September 18, 2012, the Nevada County Board of Supervisors approved a letter in support of the Bright Fiber Network's (DBA Spiral Internet) California Advanced Services Fund grant application to build a local last mile gigabit fiber-to-home broadband project.

It is the Board's understanding that the grant application will soon be considered by your Commission for a vote. Three years later, the need for this project's construction and deployment is much greater than it was in 2012.

The Board of Supervisors recognizes that broadband infrastructure is neither feasible nor sustainable in a rural and geographically diverse community without the support of State and/or Federal funding. The economic stability of our community is predicated on ubiquitous and much faster and scalable Internet access as we move further in to the 21st Century.

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In this light, we acknowledge the importance of, and express our strongest support for, Spiral Internet's project and its CASF grant application to the California Public Utilities Commission.

We see nothing more critical for our rural county's economic sustainability than the Commissioners' approval of CASF funding for this project. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Edward C. Scofield
Chairman, Board of Supervisors

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Richard Anderson, 5th District

Julie Patterson Hunter,
Clerk of the Board

August 11, 2015

Ryan Dulin
Director of Communications
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco CA 94102-3214

Dear Mr. Dulin:

On September 18, 2012, the Nevada County Board of Supervisors approved a letter in support of the Bright Fiber Network's (DBA Spiral Internet) California Advanced Services Fund grant application to build a local last mile gigabit fiber-to-home broadband project.

It is the Board's understanding that the grant application will soon be considered by your Commission for a vote. Three years later, the need for this project's construction and deployment is much greater than it was in 2012.

The Board of Supervisors recognizes that broadband infrastructure is neither feasible nor sustainable in a rural and geographically diverse community without the support of State and/or Federal funding. The economic stability of our community is predicated on ubiquitous and much faster and scalable Internet access as we move further in to the 21st Century.

Nevada County is one of eighteen counties in California to be provided service by the Central Valley Next-Generation Broadband Infrastructure Project ("the Project") – a middle-mile network – that was constructed as a result of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act plus matching California Advanced Services Fund (CASF) grant monies. Spiral Internet is fulfilling the promise of extending the Project's network by connecting to it and thus providing last-mile service to "underserved" households, community anchor and public safety institutions, and small home-based businesses.

In this light, we acknowledge the importance of, and express our strongest support for, Spiral Internet's project and its CASF grant application to the California Public Utilities Commission.

We see nothing more critical for our rural county's economic sustainability than the Commissioners' approval of CASF funding for this project. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Edward C. Scofield
Chairman, Board of Supervisors

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RESOLUTION No. 18-324

OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF NEVADA

RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT AND PROMOTE LOCAL BROADBAND EXPANSION, ACCESS AND USAGE IN NEVADA COUNTY

WHEREAS, deploying broadband networks and advanced communication services throughout Nevada County will enable continued improvements in community anchor institutions of healthcare, public safety, schools, colleges, libraries, community support organizations, businesses and social-networking for the public interest; and

WHEREAS, a technology-neutral open-access approach to broadband deployment will encourage lower prices, creation of more local consumer choices and a sustainable adoption of broadband service; and

WHEREAS, advanced communication services have become central to the financial health of our County as these services have increased individual worker productivity and connected Nevada County businesses to larger statewide, national and international markets; and

WHEREAS, Nevada County does not have direct access to the lower-cost high-capacity digital transport bandwidth for advanced affordable services that is increasingly available in metropolitan areas; and

WHEREAS, although Nevada County's Web content, e-commerce, video broadcasting and production, and computer software and hardware businesses have placed the County as a desirable high-tech location, in order to continue to retain and attract businesses, further broadband infrastructure and development is needed across Nevada County; and

WHEREAS, the expansion, access and usage of broadband networks can have a positive impact on economic development by promoting the diversification of the economy, attracting and retaining high-wage businesses and companies, and increasing the long-term investment in information technology sectors; and

WHEREAS, the City of Grass Valley, City of Nevada City and County of Nevada have expressed a joint desire for a continued partnership to promote the development of Broadband in Nevada County; and

WHEREAS, the increased local use of broadband networks and advanced communication services will enhance government and other public operations through telemedicine for healthcare, distance learning for education, and better coordination in the areas of public safety, as well as facilitate access for the aged, low-income, and unemployed for educational and employment opportunities; and

WHEREAS, in June 2018, the City of Grass Valley, City of Nevada City and County of Nevada are each adopting resolutions in support of expanding the availability of Broadband in Nevada County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Nevada, State of California, hereby supports and promotes the expansion, access and usage of broadband networks and advanced communication services throughout Nevada County to positively impact areas of healthcare, public safety, schools, colleges, libraries, community support organizations, businesses, social-networking, and economic development.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Nevada at a regular meeting of said Board, held on the 26th day of June 2018, by the following vote of said Board:

Ayes: Supervisors Heidi Hall, Edward Scofield, Dan Miller, Hank Weston and Richard Anderson

Noes: None.

Absent: None.

Abstain: None.

ATTEST:

JULIE PATTERSON HUNTER
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By: 


Edward Scofield, Chair