



STATE OF INDIANA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
State House, Second Floor
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr.
Governor

July 14, 2006

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, DC 20554

Subject: Demonstration of WiMAX Technology in Muncie, Indiana
Ball State University's FCC Application No. 0174-EX-PL-2006

Dear Ms. Dortch:

My administration is leading the effort to improve the infrastructure for broadband and high-speed data transmission in Indiana. Broadband service in rural communities will strengthen the economy, and provide additional opportunities for educational advancement and jobs. Furthermore, robust infrastructure is an increasingly important part of our plan to protect the people of Indiana in times of emergency. To accomplish those goals, I am looking for opportunities to increase competition in telecommunications and spur private investment in new technology.

Ball State University has applied for an experimental license to use 3500 MHz frequency range in Muncie, Indiana. Ball State University needs the experimental license to determine if it is economically and technically feasible to deploy WiMAX networks in rural Indiana. The success of WiMAX technology is vitally important to rural communities. A successful WiMAX deployment will provide rural communities with access to E-commerce and media-rich educational content that is now only available in larger communities. In addition, WiMAX technology provides the platform for community broadband with localized content that will allow rural residents to showcase important events in their own communities. To meet our timeframe, it is urgent that we start as soon as possible. I ask that Ball State University's pending application for an experimental license to use 3500 MHz frequency range in Muncie, Indiana, be approved as soon as it is practicable.

Sincerely,

Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr.

Cc: Jule Knapp, Acting Chief
Office of Engineering and Technology, FCC