

**Public Interest Statement for Application to Assign E040025 from
AtContact Communications, LLC to Alaska Telecom, Inc.**

The purpose of this application is to assign an operating VSAT network from a company that is facing serious fiscal challenges to one that is financially sound and has a large market of rural Alaskan native consumers, many of whom do not currently have access to the Internet at reasonable rates. As shown in the accompanying corporate structure attachment, Alaska Telecom, Inc. is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Calista Corporation, which is owned by Native Americans in Alaska. See www.calistacorp.com. This assignment will provide the means by which satellite-based Internet services, interconnected at the Sedalia, Colorado teleport, can be offered to large regions of Alaska for the benefit of its rural, unserved and underserved residents. Both Congress's efforts and the Commission's policies in recent years have endeavored to bring broadband access to rural Alaska. Assignment of this VSAT network to Alaska Telecom, Inc. represents a major step toward fulfilling these goals and policies. The public interest will be served by expeditious grant of this application.