



October 18, 2009

Governor Brian D. Schweitzer
Office of the Governor
State of Montana
P.O. Box 200801
Helena, MT 59620-0801

Dear Governor Schweitzer:

Vision Net, Inc. is a Montana owned communications company with offices in Great Falls, Billings and Missoula. As one of several "middle mile" carriers in Montana, I am writing to express my concern over the Bresnan Communications application for funding under the Broadband Stimulus Program. From the information that has been provided it is apparent that the Bresnan request duplicates services already provided by other companies.

Vision Net and other middle mile carriers (360 Networks, AT&T, Qwest and Sprint), as well as Montana's rural telephone companies, have invested significantly over the years to build and support network capacity across Montana. The intent of the Broadband Stimulus Program is to provide support for underserved and unserved areas, yet I see no demonstration of that in the Bresnan application. To the contrary, the application appears to request funding support by one company to overbuild the facilities that are currently available from the companies mentioned above. This application does not appear in any way to meet the intent of the program.

I respectfully request that you support the Montana applications that meet the intent and rules of the program. The Bresnan Communications application is not one of them.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rob Ferris", written in a cursive style.

Rob Ferris, CEO
Vision Net, Inc.