



The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
U.S. House of Representatives
235 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-0508
March 5, 2008

Dear Congresswoman Pelosi,

The Us Internet Industry Association is delighted to provide you with a copy of our most recent position paper on "Deployment of Broadband to Rural America."

It is status report on how well we cover the nation's rural areas with broadband Internet services, and I believe it will surprise you, for three reasons:

- Most of what we think we know about broadband deployment is based on old data, bad data or deliberate distortions of the data.
- We now have broadband available in at least one form for virtually every household and business in America – and we have achieved this in the shortest deployment time of any new technology in human history.
- It's not the regulation of broadband networks that needs to be a national priority, but rather solving issues that keep people from subscribing to the services that are available to them.

We now have broadband available from telephone wires, cable, satellite, wireless and cellular to almost every square foot of the nation. And while we still have a task ahead firming up this infrastructure, making it faster and lowering costs, we must turn our attention as well to the reasons we are lagging in adoption of the Internet. Bluntly put, we need to resolve the reasons why people who have broadband available to them are not using it. Issues of education. Issues of relevance to their lives. Issues of lacking computers and computing skills.

For the past 14 years, USIIA has labored to build bridges of understanding – to provide national, state and local governments with the information they need to make the very best policies for Internet companies and the consumers they serve. This paper is a continuation of that effort.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you would like further information, or is USIIA and its members may be of assistance to you in matters related to broadband and the Internet.

Respectfully,

David P. McClure
President & CEO

