



Yuut Elitnaurviat

P E O P L E ' S L E A R N I N G C E N T E R

Ms. Kate Giard
Program Administrator, Rural Alaska Broadband Internet Access Grant Program
Regulatory Commission of Alaska
701 West Eight Avenue, Suite 300
Anchorage, AK 99501

RE: United Utilities, Inc. Request for Supplementary Broadband Internet Access
Grant Funds

Dear Ms. Giard:

Yuut Elitnaurviat is a regional Career Learning Center providing academic and industry-based vocational programs to secondary and post-secondary students in the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta region. Our focus is to prepare local people for local jobs in an effort to reduce the high unemployment and poverty rates in a region that has many high paying jobs.

Currently, our program includes the use of 2-way Video Broadcast technology to deliver courses in addition to face-to-face trainings. We anticipate utilization of Internet based instruction in the near future. Our organization considers the availability of high-speed internet services as a backbone to our program delivery model.

The purpose of this correspondence is to voice support for UUI's Supplementary Broadband Internet Access Grant Funds request. YE understands that UUI has been awarded a Broadband Internet Access Grant to provide Internet access service to eleven of the communities also served by us. UUI plans to use grant funds to construct towers to provide the infrastructure needed for an advanced state of the art terrestrial communications network (DeltaNet). DeltaNet will enable a direct high capacity communications highway that, in addition to Internet, can be used by Yuut to deliver distance learning services. From our current experience, we have found that services delivered terrestrially are more reliable and that the latency imposed by a satellite system significantly reduces the quality and reliability of the service. Currently, we have no other alternative other than to use the lesser quality satellite based system to support our course delivery in these villages.

Yuut Elitnaurviat request that you approve UUI's supplementary request so that this much needed project can move forward.

Sincerely,

Carlton Kuhns,
Executive Director