

March 24, 2020

Chairman Ajit Pai
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary
445 12th Street, S.W.
Room TW-A325
Washington, DC 20554

Re: WC Docket. No. 18-120, Transforming the 2.5 GHz Band -- Rural Tribal Priority Window

Dear Chairman Pai and Secretary Dortch:

By this letter, Native Public Media and MuralNet, respectfully request that the Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”) extend the deadline of the 2.5 GHz Rural Tribal Window, WC Docket No. 18-120, Report and Order.

The Rural Tribal Priority Window opened February 3, 2020 and closes on August 3, 2020. And as stated in the Report and Order, any federally recognized Tribe or Alaska Native Village may apply for spectrum in the Rural Tribal Window; including Consortia of federally recognized Tribes and/or Native Villages, or entities controlled and majority owned by such Tribes or consortiums.

As you know, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared COVID-19 a pandemic on March 11, 2020; and President of the United States Donald Trump declared a national emergency as a federal response to COVID-19 on March 13, 2020. Federal, State and Tribal governments have since issued directives to their citizens regarding preventative measures against the spread of COVID-19. These include sheltering in place, closing of businesses, social distancing, and limiting government activities to essential functions only.

The unprecedented nature and impact of COVID-19 on the public, private and government sectors of the U.S. continue to rise. Given the flux and uncertainty of Tribes and the country to resume normal business activities for the next several months or more, we the undersigned, respectfully request the Commission to extend the 2.5 GHz Rural Tribal Window for an additional 12 months.

Sincerely,

/s/
Loris Taylor
President & CEO
Native Public Media
PO Box 3955,
Flagstaff, AZ 86003

/s/
Mariel Triggs
CEO
MuralNet
1900 Fruitvale Ave STE 3F
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Copy:
Commissioner Michael O’Rielly, Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel, Commissioner Geoffrey Starks, Commissioner Brendan Carr