[Insert Letterhead]

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information and

NTIA Administrator

National Telecommunications & Information Administration

U.S. Department of Commerce

1401 Constitution Ave., N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20230

[Insert date]

Re: Middle Mile Broadband Infrastructure Grant Program: Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission – “A Southwestern Pennsylvania Partnership to Bridge Middle Mile Connections”

Dear Assistant Secretary Davidson:

I am writing in support of the proposed Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission’s (SPC) Middle Mile Grant Program – a collaborative effort between SPC, local governments, community organizations, and private fiber optic infrastructure owners to expand and extend middle mile infrastructure and reduce the cost of connecting unserved and underserved areas of southwestern Pennsylvania. Modern life is dependent on fast, reliable, and affordable internet service. As residents of [Insert community/county]. we expect digital equity with those living in larger communities.

[Describe your current internet situation…… Challenges, experiences or needs……. Specific examples of difficulty with online education or work from home. Have you had problems communicating with family members via Skype or Facetime during the pandemic? Would you/your family like to be able to download entertainment?]

Without quality internet services, we are not keeping up with the world around us. If this proposal from SPC is funded, better access will improve our life and well-being. Communicating online is crucial for our community. I believe access to broadband internet is no longer an amenity, but rather a necessity.

[I/we] are highly in support of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission’s Middle Mile Grant proposal. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please feel free to reach [me/us at phone number or email address]. Thank you for your consideration of this letter.

Respectfully,