



STATE OF MINNESOTA

Office of Governor Tim Pawlenty

130 State Capitol ♦ 75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard ♦ Saint Paul, MN 55155

November 6, 2009

Rick King, Chair
Minnesota Ultra High-Speed Broadband Task Force
8628 Wynstone Pass
Eden Prairie, Minnesota 55347

Dear Rick:

I write to congratulate and thank the Minnesota Ultra High-Speed Broadband Task Force on your report release today. Your diligent work, creative thinking, and vision have provided state leaders with an important platform and menu of options for expanding the state's broadband access and use. The ideas generated by your effort will position Minnesota well in our highly competitive, global economic environment.

The partnership between public and private sectors represented in this effort is a clear demonstration of Minnesota's cooperative spirit. The difficult task of setting forth a broadband access goal and implementation plan for the state of Minnesota is an important one. The principles and recommendations in this report represent a consensus of Minnesota's provider, business, health care, education, government, and citizen communities.

The need for bold and innovative technologies could not be greater. Broadband access represents a key economic development tool that is necessary to support Minnesota businesses and individuals in their ongoing efforts to innovate and thrive in these difficult economic times.

Again, I thank the legislative leaders and task force members that contributed to this work. I look forward to the ongoing dialogue that this group and others will bring forward as we digest the information and recommendations presented in this report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "T. Pawlenty".

Tim Pawlenty
Governor

Cc: Members of the Ultra High-Speed Broadband Task Force