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United States Senate

September 20, 2022

Sarah Bleau
Middle Mile Director
Office of Internet Connectivity and Growth
National Telecommunications and Information Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear Director Bleau,

I am writing to express my support for Peninsula Fiber Network's (PFN) application for the National Telecommunications and Information Administration's (NTIA) Enabling Middle Mile grant program.

Michigan's unique geography makes it increasingly challenging to deploy fiber interconnection routes across the state. This project proposes to install two redundant undersea cables in Lake Michigan to interconnect with the largest data center in the world, which is located in Chicago. [redacted] These projects will provide Michigan with an alternative connection should the unthinkable happen across existing land routes.

[redacted]

Funding this project is critically important for the long-term expansion of broadband service across Michigan. The broadband infrastructure deployment proposed by PFN puts our state in a better position to connect underserved rural areas in the near future.

I am confident the Peninsula Fiber Network's application will receive appropriate consideration. If I may be of any further assistance, please contact Doug Lindblom in my Marquette office at (906) 373-6038. Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.