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ONE HUNDRED FOURTEENTH CONGRESS
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE

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September 14, 2015

Mr. Michael Slinger
Director, Google Fiber Cities
Google
1600 Amphitheatre Parkway
Mountain View, CA 94043

Dear Mr. Slinger:

Thank you for appearing before the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology on July 22, 2015, to testify at the hearing entitled "Promoting Broadband Infrastructure Investment."

Pursuant to the Rules of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, the hearing record remains open for ten business days to permit Members to submit additional questions for the record, which are attached. The format of your responses to these questions should be as follows: (1) the name of the Member whose question you are addressing, (2) the complete text of the question you are addressing in bold, and (3) your answer to that question in plain text.

To facilitate the printing of the hearing record, please respond to these questions with a transmittal letter by the close of business on Monday, September 28, 2015. Your responses should be mailed to Greg Watson, Legislative Clerk, Committee on Energy and Commerce, 2125 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515 and e-mailed in Word format to Greg.Watson@mail.house.gov.

Thank you again for your time and effort preparing and delivering testimony before the Subcommittee.

Sincerely,



Greg Walden
Chairman
Subcommittee on Communications and Technology

cc: Anna Eshoo, Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Communications and Technology

Attachment

Attachment—Additional Questions for the Record

The Honorable Greg Walden

1. Mr. Slinger, Google Fiber chose not to roll out small business offerings immediately in Kansas City. Google Fiber began serving small businesses in November of 2014 – some 2 or 3 years after residential service began in Kansas City. Was there a particular level of service that you felt that Google Fiber could not offer straightaway? Were there regulatory or legal constraints that prevented Google from doing so?
2. Mr. Slinger, knowing what you now have learned about fiber deployment, would you recommend that municipalities build out their own fiber networks? What would be the best way to go about bringing high-speed networks to a small town or city? How does that change for a very small town – e.g., a town of 1200 people?

The Honorable Kevin Cramer

1. One of the main drivers of broadband investment is video. The ability to provide desirable video content has a direct effect on broadband adoption and ongoing operation of broadband-capable networks.
 - A. Are reforms needed to enhance consumers' video experience and ensure outdated rules or other failures in the video distribution market do not undermine our nation's broadband goals?
 - B. While net neutrality rules are focused partly on concerns about how network operators could treat content providers, what about the concerns of how content providers use bargaining power and threaten affordable consumer access to content?

The Honorable Ben Ray Lujan

1. Mr. Slinger, far too many Americans in rural communities lack access to broadband services. Now, while I would love to see Google Fiber in Northern New Mexico, it may not make sense everywhere. As a result, I believe that we have to look for creative and innovative ways to connect more people.

For example, I know that Google has purchased a New Mexico-based startup, Titan Aerospace, in hopes that their solar-powered satellites could be used to bring Internet access to remote areas.

- A. Can you and the other witnesses discuss additional innovative solutions to this issue?