



PUBLIC NOTICE

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

News Media Information 202 / 418-0500
Internet: <http://www.fcc.gov>
TTY: 1-888-835-5322

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FCC ANNOUNCES AGENDA FOR MARCH 19 RURAL BROADBAND WORKSHOP

GN Docket No. 13-5
WC Docket No. 10-90

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) provides an initial agenda and panelist information for the Rural Broadband workshop scheduled for March 19, 2014 in the Commission Meeting Room (TW-C305), 445 12th Street, S.W., Washington, D.C., 20554. The Rural Broadband workshop will focus on the importance of broadband in rural America and include presentations designed to elicit information to help develop “ideas about how to structure experiments that will inform our policy decisions regarding the deployment of next generation networks in rural, high-cost areas.”¹

AGENDA

9:15 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. **Welcome and Opening Remarks – Chairman Wheeler**

9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. **Panel 1: Broadband Needs, Challenges and Opportunities in Rural America**

This panel will discuss the critical need for high-speed broadband in rural areas for individual consumers, businesses, and community anchor organizations. The panel will focus on the specific impact that access to broadband has on education, healthcare, and economic development.

Introductory Remarks:

Commissioner Mignon Clyburn

Panelists:

Jeff Fastnacht, Superintendent, Ellendale School, Ellendale, ND

Charles Fluharty, President and CEO, Rural Policy Research Institute

Brian Kelley, CEO, Ag Technologies

Thomas F. Klobucar, Ph.D., Deputy Director, Office of Rural Health, U.S.

Department of Veterans Affairs

Linda Lord, Maine State Librarian

Don Means, Coordinator, Gigabit Libraries Network

¹ *Technology Transitions et al.*, GN Docket No. 13-5 et al., Order, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, Report and Order, Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, Proposal for Ongoing Data Initiative, FCC 14-5, at para. 91 (rel. Jan. 31, 2014) (*Technology Transitions Order*).

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. **Panel 2: Rural Broadband Buildout - Effective Strategies & Lessons Learned**

This panel will examine issues that incentivize different types of providers to deploy broadband in rural communities, factors that determine the type of technology deployed, and the current and future capabilities of different technologies.

Introductory Remarks:

Commissioner Michael O’Rielly

Panelists:

Will Aycock, General Manager, Greenlight Community Broadband, City of Wilson, NC

Michael Cook, Senior Vice President, North America Division, Hughes Network Systems

Jimmy Copeland, Director of Special Projects, Troy Cablevision, Inc.

Cecil Lara, Director Network Planning, AT&T

Denny Law, General Manager/CEO, Golden West Telecommunications

Ben Moncrief, Director, Government Relations, C Spire

Alex Phillips, CEO, Highspeedlink.net

12:30 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. **Lunch Break**

1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. **Panel 3: State Strategies to Meet the Rural Broadband Challenge**

This panel will examine the important role that states can play in ensuring the availability and adoption of broadband in rural communities.

Panelists:

Ben Dobbs, Deputy Director, Massachusetts Broadband Institute (invited)

David Salway, Director, New York State Broadband Program Office

Catherine Sandoval, Commissioner, California Public Utilities Commission

Lori Sorenson, Chief Operating Officer, Bureau of Communications & Computer Services, Illinois Central Management Services

Ray Timothy, Ph.D., CEO/Executive Director, Utah Education Network

The FCC will attempt to accommodate as many attendees as possible; however, admittance will be limited to seating availability. The Commission will provide audio and/or video coverage of the meeting over the Internet from the FCC’s Web page at <http://www.fcc.gov/live>. Open captioning will be provided for this event. Other reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities are available upon request. Please include a description of the accommodation you will need and tell us how to contact you if we need more information. Make your request as early as possible. Last minute requests will be accepted, but may be impossible to fill. Send an e-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at 202-418-0530 (voice), 202-418-0432 (tty).

Attendance - This Workshop is open to the public. All attendees are advised to arrive approximately 30 minutes prior to the start of the workshop to allow time to go through our security process.

Webcast - To view the webcast, go to www.fcc.gov/live on the day of the event. Viewers may submit questions by e-mail to livequestions@fcc.gov and/or via Twitter at #FCCRuralBroadband.

Website – Updates to the agenda, as well as panelist materials will be available on the workshop’s website at <http://www.fcc.gov/events/rural-broadband-workshop>.

For additional information about the workshop, please contact Patrick Halley at 202-418-7550, or via e-mail at Patrick.Halley@fcc.gov.

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