

October 9, 2019

The Honorable Ajit Pai
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Pai,

While I am encouraged to hear that your agency is planning to implement a formal public feedback mechanism to improve broadband coverage maps, the people of West Virginia need help now. Until a more viable process is established, I will be providing you with real coverage data from people on the ground in West Virginia and a brief description of the challenges they face personally, professionally, and economically as a result of their unreliable broadband service.

I have received correspondence from a constituent in Bruceton Mills, West Virginia in the Northeastern part of the state and home to the Big Bear Lake campgrounds, where many people come to visit and enjoy the lake as well as the beautiful mountain scenery. West Virginian is an outdoorsman's dream and the perfect location for an office retreat or a weekend getaway. Unfortunately, reliable broadband connectivity is something both tourists and residents of Bruceton Mills lack consistently. This lack of quality internet coverage in Bruceton Mills, like many small towns across the state, continues to stunt economic development projects that could provide jobs to local residents.

Using the Ookla Speed Testing Application on an iPhone 6 to test their fixed broadband service from AT&T Internet, my office received the following speed results from Bruceton Mills:

- 2.35mbps down / 2.52mbps up

These numbers are well below your agency's definition of broadband and the advertised speed they were given by their provider. I hope you will use this data to validate the information West Virginia's broadband providers have submitted to the FCC and ensure that they are eligible for any and all relevant broadband grants and other resources. Places like Bruceton Mills depend on the promise of universal service, and it is our job to make good on that promise.

Sincerely,

Joe Manchin III
United States Senator