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August 5, 2011

CPUC Communications Division ATTN: CASF Consortia Grant Account 505 Van Ness Avenue, Third Floor San Francisco, CA 94102

re: Endorsement of the Eastern Sierra Connect Regional Broadband Consortium

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Thank you for this opportunity to express support for a California Advances Services Funding (CASF) grant applicant, the Eastern Sierra Connect (ESC) Regional Broadband Consortium. Over the past year, ESC has shown extraordinary leadership in its effort to make broadband Internet available to all residents in the three county regions of Mono, Inyo and Eastern Kern.

Antelope Valley Conservancy serves a region that includes eastern Kern County. In our experience, public access to Internet information is vitally important for participation in regional governance and land use processes, public information, health and emergency services, education, and business. Many communities in Kern, Mono and Inyo Counties have only slow, dialup connections, and cannot open standard pdf files or maps.

The Board of Directors of Antelope Valley Conservancy sincerely hopes that the California Public Utilities Commission will provide funding for the Eastern Sierra Connect Consortium.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully Submitted, By Resolution of the Board of Directors August 4, 2011

Wendy Reed, MPA

Director