

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

June 16, 2011

The Honorable Julius Genachowski
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski,


The finest communications system in the world relies on both free, over-the-air broadcast television and high speed broadband services. Accordingly, we write today to state our view that spectrum policies will best serve the public if they allow for a continued and robust local broadcast television service in conjunction with broadband services.

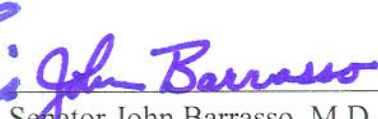
Throughout Wyoming, households rely on free over-the-air television as their primary source of news, information and entertainment. Broadcasters across Wyoming and the nation have made significant investments to meet the requirements of the 2009 digital television (DTV) transition. As a result, Wyoming's free, over-the-air broadcasts are providing viewers with better audio and video quality along with expanded programming choices. While there is no question that America must continue to invest in advanced broadband internet technologies, these investments should not diminish the benefits promised by the DTV transition.

Providing access to television service in rural areas across Wyoming can be extremely challenging. Access to quality, reliable broadcast programming must not be jeopardized as a result of spectrum policies that could reduce viewer reception of local stations. Similarly, they should not lose potential services because of a failure to adequately protect station service areas.

As Congress and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) continue working to adopt policies to ensure that the future needs of all spectrum users are adequately addressed, we urge the FCC to safeguard the promised benefits of the DTV transition while preserving broadcasters' ability to fully serve their local communities. The policies of today will have a tremendous impact on generations to come. We look forward to working closely with the Commission to protect television viewers and broadcasters today while preparing for the spectrum needs of tomorrow.

Sincerely,


Senator Michael B. Enzi


Senator John Barrasso, M.D.


Representative Cynthia M. Lummis