

December 15, 2021

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Majority Leader, U.S. Senate
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader, U.S. Senate
317 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Leaders Schumer and McConnell,

As former NTIA Administrators who have served over the last thirty years on behalf of both Republican and Democratic Presidents, we write to urge the speedy confirmation of Alan Davidson as NTIA Administrator and Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information. At a time when digital technology is so vital to our nation's economic growth and social well-being, NTIA's mission to provide trusted advice and expertise on every aspect of the digital economy has never been more critical. Alan will come to NTIA with leadership experience in industry and civil society organizations, a deep well of technical expertise, and most importantly a reservoir of trust across the political and ideological spectrum.

Acting on Mr. Davidson's nomination expeditiously is particularly important because Congress has recently given NTIA an urgent agenda and significant resources to bring the benefits of new technology to all parts of our country. With the passage of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, Congress has entrusted the agency with more than \$42 Billion in broadband deployment funds. NTIA must have strong leadership to guide the effort, be sure that the agency delivers on the promise of connecting all Americans, and be accountable to Congress for how the money is spent. Additionally, NTIA's statutory role as the federal government's spectrum manager has never been more important to address our nation's spectrum demands.

Beyond Congress' ambitious domestic agenda, NTIA has long played an important role on the global stage. At a time when 5G deployment, privacy, and cybersecurity policy have increased geostrategic importance, the nation needs NTIA's technical acumen and background more than ever. Mr. Davidson's timely confirmation will bring his voice and expertise on these topics to our government at a time when the U.S. must show leadership domestically and globally. Moreover, Mr. Davidson's confirmation will give the U.S. a strong voice at the International Telecommunication Union as that organization chooses a new Secretary-General.

From its inception, Congress has entrusted NTIA to address the day's most critical technology issues. Congress tasking NTIA to administer the Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment grant program is just the latest example. In the interest of advancing U.S. economic and national security, leadership at NTIA is critical. We urge a swift confirmation for Alan Davidson as the next Administrator.

Sincerely Yours,

The Honorable David Redl (NTIA Administrator 2017 - 2019)

The Honorable Lawrence E. Strickling (NTIA Administrator 2009 - 2017)

The Honorable Meredith Attwell Baker (Acting NTIA Administrator 2007 - 2008)

The Honorable John Kneuer (NTIA Administrator 2006 - 2007)

The Honorable Michael Gallagher (NTIA Administrator 2003 - 2006)

The Honorable Nancy Victory (NTIA Administrator 2001 - 2003)

The Honorable Greg Rohde (NTIA Administrator 1999 - 2001)

The Honorable Larry Irving (NTIA Administrator 1993 - 1999)

cc: Senator Maria Cantwell
Senator Roger Wicker