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**COUNTY OF MENDOCINO
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

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July 12, 2022
Communications Division – Advice Letter Coordinator
California Public Utilities Commission
505 Van Ness Ave., 3rd Floor
San Francisco, CA 94102-3298

RE: Support for AT&T California Advice Letter No. 49018A

Dear Communications Division,

The County of Mendocino is writing to support AT&T's proposal to install fiber-optic cable to residences and businesses in Comptche, California. This proposed investment will significantly benefit this region by providing better service and better access to the Internet than the subject community has ever known. In addition, by upgrading to fiber, AT&T's proposed investment will improve service quality and resiliency for phone customers and access to high-speed broadband Internet in Comptche. In September 2020, DSL service in Comptche went down for over seven days while a severe wildfire was burning in an adjacent county. This project will significantly enhance public safety.

Deploying broadband networks in the greater Comptche area may help local businesses grow, bridge the digital divide enabling students succeed in the modern virtual environment, help residents connect, facilitate rural telemedicine and otherwise improve the local quality of life.

Comptche has long been concerned that existing DSL service would be discontinued without any viable replacement options. Fiber upgrade is a long-term goal of the volunteers at the Comptche Broadband Committee, and their efforts deserve support.

We strongly encourage the CPUC to accept AT&T's proposal to invest nearly \$6.4 million in their networks to help bring broadband to Comptche and other California communities and do so as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Ted Williams, Chair
Mendocino County Board of Supervisors

Cc:

Alice Busching Reynolds, President, California Public Utilities Commission
Clifford Rechtschaffen, Commissioner, California Public Utilities Commission
Genevieve Shiroma, Commissioner, California Public Utilities Commission
Darcie L. Houck, Commissioner, California Public Utilities Commission
John Reynolds, Commissioner, California Public Utilities Commission

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