



✓ Min Ack sent 4/27/07 ✓ To A.V. ✓ To Commes. 5/14

MINIDOKA COUNTY

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

P.O. Box 368 - 715 G Street
Rupert, Idaho 83350-0368
(208) 436-7183
FAX (208) 436-1580

2007 APR 27 AM 8:20
IDaho PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSIO.

April 25, 2007

Paul Kjellander, President
Idaho Public Utilities Commission
P.O. Box 83720
Boise, Idaho 83720-0074

RE: Letter of support for Edge Wireless Grant request

Dear Mr. Kjellander and Commission Members,

I direct this letter to you in support of an application by Edge Wireless for grant funding under the Universal Service Fund. I do this in the capacity of my job as the Director of Community Development for Minidoka County and with support of the Minidoka County Board of County Commissioners. In my position as Director I am the Building Official and Planning and Zoning Administrator and in addition I directly supervise land line and wireless telephone communications for Minidoka County.

We understand that Edge Wireless has made an application for a grant through the Universal Service Fund for to assist in the construction of a cell tower in Minidoka County, approximately 5 to 6 miles of northeast of Rupert in the Acequia area.

We do express our support for this application for the following reasons:

- We are a rural farming community by nature with sporadic wireless service in our county.
- The Acequia area is an area that has poor coverage with most wireless companies.
- There is a new school being built in Acequia and presently most wireless service is poor and sometimes non existent especially inside buildings.
- This can become a safety issue when law enforcement and emergency personal does not have adequate wireless capabilities.
- This is also a problem for staff and visitors to the school.
- The coverage eliminates family from choosing a wireless carrier for their only phone service because of poor coverage within buildings.
- The grant would help Edge Wireless install a well needed cell tower site without the immediate concern of profit.
- I am not aware of any unresolved zoning issues or zoning violations associated with this particular property.

From our understanding of the Universal Service Fund was created to address and similar situation, therefore we support the application by Edge Wireless. Your consideration on this issue would be very much appreciated. If you have any questions please feel free to call or contact this office.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Aston", with a long, sweeping horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Paul Aston, C.B.O.
Director

Cc: Dan Stapleman, Chairman Minidoka County Board of County Commissioners
Kevin Halverson, Minidoka County Sheriff