

National Congress of American Indians
66th Annual Convention & Tradeshow
Palm Springs, CA

Telecommunications Sub-Committee Agenda
Tuesday October 13, and Wednesday October 14, 2009
4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Smoketree A-C

Sub-Committee Chair:

Geoffrey Blackwell, Corporate Director, Chickasaw Nation Industries

- 1) Opening Prayer
- 2) Welcome and Introductions
- 3) Listening Session on Stimulus Act Broadband Programs & National Broadband Plan

Following the Billions in New Internet Communications Funds Breakout Session, representatives of the Rural Utilities Service, National Telecommunications Information Administration, and Federal Communications Commission will join in a tribal listening session focusing on the challenges and opportunities tribes face in-- and the potential opportunities for--the new Broadband Initiatives Program (BIP), Broadband Technology Opportunity Program (BTOP), and National Broadband Plan.

Tribal Leaders and representatives are encouraged to attend and engage in constructive discussion aimed at achieving greater broadband internet deployment on tribal lands. This Listening Session is focused on improving the process for subsequent rounds of funds availability and the ensuring the new National Broadband Plan meets the critical needs of Indian Country.

- 4) Identification of Broadband Related Issues for NCAI Resolutions
- 5) Presentations and Discussions
 - a) Establishing a Tribal Priority in Broadcast Spectrum Licensing at the FCC, and the Importance a Tribal Priority in Broadband Regulatory Arenas
John Crigler, Senior Partner, Garvey Schubert Barer
Counsel to Native Public Media and several Tribal broadcasters
 - b) Sacred Sites Preservation and Tower Siting Issues in the Broadband Stimulus Funding Process
Greg Smith, Partner, Smith and Brown-Yazzie
Counsel to the United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.
 - c) Lessons Learned in Applying for Broadband Funding in the First Round of BIP and BTOP Notice of Funds Availability
Matthew R. Rantanen, Director of Technology
Tribal Digital Village, Southern California Tribal Chairman's Association

- 6) Sub-Committee Issue Updates
 - a) Federal Communications Commission Update
Shana Barehand, Senior Attorney/Liaison to Tribal Governments, FCC
 - b) Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians Telecommunications & Utilities Committee Update
Susie Allen, Co-Chair for Telecommunications
 - c) National Tribal Telecommunications Association Update
Eric Liang Jensen, Policy Counsel
 - d) Native American Broadband Association
Mark Pruner, President
 - e) Native Public Media Update
Loris Taylor, Executive Director
- 7) Consideration of Resolutions
- 8) Closing