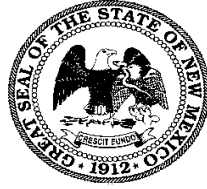


NEW MEXICO PUBLIC REGULATION COMMISSION

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 15, 2017

NEWS RELEASE

PRC Chair Jones Nominated to Newly Formed FCC Broadband Committee

SANTA FE – New Mexico Public Regulation Commission (NMPRC) Chairman Sandy Jones on Wednesday, February 15 was nominated by his peers to represent the NMPRC on the Federal Communications Commission's Broadband Deployment Advisory Committee.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) announced the establishment on January 31 of the new federal advisory committee. The committee will be expected to provide advice and recommendations to the FCC on how to accelerate the deployment of high-speed Internet access. Nominees selected to the Broadband Deployment Advisory Committee will serve a term of two years.

Commissioner Jones has been a Commissioner of the NMPRC for six years, representing the almost entirely rural District 5, located in the southwestern quadrant of the state, and has been serving as chairman since January 1, 2017. Mr. Jones was also the chairman of the NMPRC in 2009.

Commissioner Jones has assumed a leading role at the NMPRC to expand the availability of broadband service in rural New Mexico. Through his efforts to create a Broadband Fund through legislation and regulations, Commissioner Jones has attained an abundance of knowledge about the economic, political, and regulatory challenges of making broadband available to customers living in rural areas, including Native American pueblos and reservations located throughout New Mexico.

The NMPRC's Commissioners voiced their collective belief that Commissioner Jones' background and experience would make him a valuable addition to the FCC's Broadband Deployment Advisory Committee.

The Broadband Deployment Advisory Committee's mission will be to advise the FCC on how to reduce or remove regulatory barriers to infrastructure investment in the effort to accelerate the deployment of broadband services nationwide.

ABOUT THE NMPRC

The NMPRC regulates public utilities, telecommunications companies and motor carriers operating in the State of New Mexico. It also administers the State Fire Marshal's Office, the New Mexico Firefighters Training Academy in Socorro, N.M., and the Pipeline Safety Bureau.

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