Alliance Area
Development Foundation

July 26, 2001

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OFFICE OF CHAIRMAN
P.U.C.O.

Alan Schriber, Chairman
The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio
180 East Broad Street
Columbus, OH 43215-3793

Dear Chairman Schriber:

As part of my duties and responsibilities as President of the Alliance Area Development Foundation I need to be aware of regulations and legislation that might affect our Alliance area communities. Recently, I've read various stories in the newspaper about the PUCO's current plans for alternative regulation of phone companies. I support the new plan (Case No. 00-1532-TP-COI) that will play a key role in determining Ohio's economic competitiveness in the future.

The delivery of information in today's global economy demands speed and sufficient telecommunications infrastructure. The new rules will assure Ohio's competitive position by providing a regulatory environment that acknowledges the investments made by phone companies in high-speed Internet services to customers.

In Alliance I interact with many organizations and I see firsthand the economic challenges and hurdles that we face with the loss of jobs in our area. I also can see how technology can be used to gain a competitive advantage in the marketplace. The Alliance Area Development Foundation has embraced technology with an ISDN line to facilitate Internet data transmission. To remain competitive in attracting new industry and retaining our current businesses broadband access is required.

Ohio should be at the forefront of the technological investment in the new telephone alternative regulations will put our state in a leadership position. I appreciate your efforts to take us to the highest level of technology utilization.

Sincerely,

Mike Campbell

Mike Campbell, President
Alliance Area Development Foundation

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