



## SAN JUAN COUNTY COMMISSION

Jamie Harvey	Chairman
Silvia Stubbs	Vice-Chair
Bruce Adams	Commissioner
Mack McDonald	Administrator

April 2, 2024  
USDA Rural Development  
Rural Utilities Service  
STOP 1590, Rm 4121-S  
1400 Independence Ave.,  
SW Washington, DC 20250-1590

Re: ReConnect Broadband Deployment

To Whom It May Concern,

The San Juan County Commissioners are writing to express our support for Emery Telcom's application to develop fiber optic infrastructure in rural San Juan County today. As the Commissioners of this community, we can tell you firsthand how extremely beneficial access to reliable internet would be. Reliable, high-speed internet provides residents of rural communities and our neighbors with opportunities we may not have access to. It allows for economic development and individuals to overcome potential barriers and accessibility issues faced by the absence of the Internet.

Developing fiber optic infrastructure in this community would allow members of San Juan County to stay connected digitally to their friends and family who may not necessarily live in this area. Reliable internet would enable the local community to apply for digital remote jobs they previously did not have access to. Fiber optic internet even has the potential to attract new businesses to the area and allow the community to develop alongside the rest of the country. Today's internet access goes beyond being able to find a good recipe to cook for dinner or stream a new movie with your family.

In the 21<sup>st</sup> century, fast internet means accessing job opportunities, digital books, and even online college degrees from your fingertips without ever having to leave home. The Internet is no longer a luxury; it is vital to supporting the well-being and growth of individuals and communities. Emery Telcom is committed to supporting the development of its communities, as demonstrated by the company's fantastic scholarship opportunities. I implore you to strongly consider Emery Telcom's application so that they may continue to support the rural counties of Utah and help propel our rural neighborhoods forward into the modern era.

Kind regards,

Jamie Harvey, Commission Chair  
San Juan County Commission  
117 So. Main Street  
P.O. Box 490  
Monticello, UT 84535