News for Immediate Release

May 7, 2010

Meetings in Northern PA to Discuss Increased Broadband Availability to be held May 11-12

Harrisburg - The Governor's Office of Administration is hosting a series of meetings for community leaders, broadband providers, businesses, citizens and other interested organizations to learn more about the commonwealth's plans to expand broadband access in 32 counties using a $28.8 million grant from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

"By enhancing broadband services to unserved and underserved communities in Pennsylvania, we can increase jobs, spur investments in technology and infrastructure, and provide long-term economic benefits," said Secretary of Administration Naomi Wyatt.

The commonwealth will use the grant to add broadband capacity to its public safety radio system network. Local telecommunications companies and Internet service providers can purchase the excess capacity at competitive prices to serve citizens, schools, businesses and other organizations.

The public meetings will be held:

- **Tuesday, May 11 at 2:30 p.m. in Clarion (Clarion County)**
  Clarion University of Pennsylvania, Multi-Purpose Room, Gemmell Student Complex, 840 Wood St.
  Register online at www.sedacog.org/npab/ or call 814-677-4800

- **Wednesday, May 12 at 9 a.m. in Williamsport (Lycoming County)**
  Pennsylvania College of Technology, Mountain Laurel Room, Professional Development Center, 1 College Ave.
  Register online at www.sedacog.org/npab/ or call 570-524-4491

- **Wednesday, May 12 at 3 p.m. in Tunkhannock (Wyoming County)**
  Triton Hose Company #1, 116 West Tioga St.
  Register online at www.sedacog.org/npab/ or call 570-665-5581

To learn more about how federal Recovery Act funds are being used to improve broadband access in Pennsylvania, visit www.recovery.pa.gov. Click on "Opportunities" and "Broadband (Hi-Speed Data Transfer) Opportunities."

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Editor's Note: The following 32 counties are identified for the grant:

Bradford, Cameron, Carbon, Centre, Clarion, Clearfield, Clinton, Columbia, Crawford, Erie, Elk, Forest, Jefferson, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Lycoming, McKean, Mercer, Monroe, Montour, Northumberland, Pike, Potter, Snyder, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, Union, Venango, Warren, Wayne and Wyoming.

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