

July 2, 2009

WASHINGTON, DC - U.S. Rep. Michael Arcuri (NY-24) announced that \$4 billion in Recovery Bill funding has been designated for rural broadband projects across the country, which will allow for communities across the region to apply and receive funding to address their broadband needs.

"Broadband access for all of Upstate New York is vital in ensuring that my constituents are well-informed and local communities are better suited to attract businesses and new residents," Arcuri said, "I look forward to supporting the applications from our local communities and will fight to make sure that we can have access to as much funding as possible in our unserved and underserved regions."

On Wednesday, July 1st, 2009, Vice President Joe Biden and the Department of Commerce announced the first round of Recovery Act funding aimed at expanding broadband access to help improve technology and to create jobs by building Internet infrastructure. The Department of Commerce has been charged with administering a key part of the broadband expansion initiative.

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) and the Department of Agriculture's Rural Utilities Service (RUS) jointly issued a Notice of Funds Availability (NOFA) and requested applications describing the availability of funds and application requirements for NTIA's Broadband Technology Opportunities Program and the RUS Broadband Initiatives Program (BIP). Applications for funds made available will be accepted beginning on July 14, 2009 through August 14, 2009.

The complete details of this Notice of Funding Availability are available at <http://www.broadbandusa.gov>

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