



August 18, 2018

Jesse Torres  
Deputy Director, Small Business and Innovation  
CA Small Business Advocate  
California Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz)  
300 South Spring Street, Suite 16701  
Los Angeles, CA 90013

**Re: Draft Third Investment Plan for the Cap-and-Trade Auction Proceeds and Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF)**

The Southern Border Broadband Consortium (SBBC) supports the comments filed by the California Emerging Technology Fund and urges the California Air Resources Board to optimize Digital Inclusion in funding from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund. Broadband is a green strategy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and shrink the carbon footprint of major infrastructure systems.

SBBC knows first-hand the importance of closing the Digital Divide. We work to get disadvantaged communities connected and low-income households online. We have been collecting data through CalSPEED, holding and attending community events to gather data regarding current upload/ download speeds and needed speeds and services our community members in Imperial and San Diego counties need. Thus, we commend and endorse your focus on disadvantaged communities and low-income households.

The SBBC has been working with the Imperial Irrigation District, Imperial County Office of Education, AT&T, Spectrum, Frontier, T-Mobile, and many more stakeholders in Imperial and San Diego counties to get the affordable services to our community members and hold workshops with agencies like the Area Agency on Aging and the County Library systems to educate our community members on the importance and various usages affordable high-speed internet can offer them and their businesses.

We also know that collaboration among stakeholders can produce powerful partnerships. We stand ready to assist you in implementing the Third Investment Plan and helping meet the greenhouse gas emission reduction goals for the State of California.

Sincerely,

Glenna Barrett  
SBBC, Executive Director