



**STATE OF VERMONT**

May 22, 2018

June Tierney, Commissioner  
Department of Public Service  
112 State Street, Third Floor  
Montpelier, VT 05620-2601

Dear Commissioner Tierney,

This is a request for clarification regarding the status of the CoverageCo network. Specifically, we would like to know whether the Department of Public Service has received a plan regarding the future operation of the CoverageCo network from Vanu, Inc., Richard Biby, CoverageCo, Rose Park Advisors, or Stephen Whitaker regarding:

1. Maintaining critical electric, back haul, and switching services to the network.
2. Reinstating cellular coverage for units that are currently nonoperational.
3. Reinstating cellular coverage where lack of needed maintenance has left the system nonoperational.
4. Repayment of vendors.
5. Ensuring cellular service in Halifax, Hancock, Norton, Readsboro, Rochester, Roxbury, Stockbridge, Townshend, and Whitingham. In prior funding proposals, these areas were cited by the State of Vermont as having been extensively damaged by Tropical Storm Irene and other 2011 flooding and they either did not have cellular and broadband services before the flooding or their cellular and broadband services were interrupted by direct damage or power outages.

The speed of the Administration's response to the Grace Cottage Hospital situation was deeply appreciated, as was the assistance provided by several national carriers in reversing the impending emergency in Townshend. However, the CoverageCo cellular service at Twin Valley High School in rural

Whitingham, a number of resiliency sites, and a number of the other 163 sites that were built are nonoperational at present. Also, as of Thursday, May 17th, our inquiries concerning unpaid vendors have indicated that any sites that are currently operational are unlikely to remain so much longer.

We would like an explanation as to why the Department has not yet terminated its contract with CoverageCo. We also would like to know when you intend to initiate a process to ensure cellular service is available in the above-referenced communities, utilizing the remaining capital funds the Department has for this purpose. Finally, we would like to know which sites, if any, are currently operational and how the Department is monitoring their operational status.

We look forward to hearing from you on these matters, and thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

/s/ Laura Sibia  
Rep. Laura Sibia  
Windham-Bennington District

/s/ John Gannon  
Rep. John Gannon  
Windham-6 District

/s/ Benjamin Jickling  
Rep. Benjamin Jickling  
Orange-Washington-Addison District

/s/ Sandy Haas  
Rep. Sandy Haas  
Windsor-Rutland District

/s/ Chip Conquest  
Rep. Chip Conquest  
Orange-Caledonia District

/s/ Charlie Kimbell  
Rep. Charlie Kimbell  
Windsor-5 District

/s/ Peter Conlon  
Rep. Peter Conlon  
Addison-2 District

cc: Jason Gibbs, Chief of Staff  
Representative Mitzi Johnson, Speaker of the House  
Luke Martland, Director and Chief Counsel, Legislative Council