



NATIONAL BROADBAND PLAN IMPLEMENTATION CRITICAL WIPP CONVEYS CONCERNS TO THE PRESIDENT

For Immediate Release
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Washington, D.C. – June 25, 2010 – Women Impacting Public Policy (WIPP) and its partner organizations addressed its concerns regarding the implementation of the National Broadband Plan directly to President Obama. The Plan is critical for small business growth and America’s overall growth and competitiveness. WIPP members are tremendously excited about its vision and scope, but have some reservations.

The first concern is the Federal Communications Commission’s (FCC) approach to now consider classifying broadband as a Telecommunications Service under Title II of the 1934 Telecommunications Act. “At this point in time, the FCC must to move forward with full deployment of broadband and encourage innovation and private sector investment,” said Barbara Kasoff, President of WIPP. “A heavy regulatory environment will not be conducive to moving the initiative forward, and certainly the legal and political battles will cause undue and unnecessary delays and frustration,” said Kasoff.

A second area of concern is the need for the small business voice in the process at the FCC. The FCC would benefit by including small businesses, especially women-owned small businesses, into its stakeholder discussions, since women-owned firms are the fastest growing sector of the U.S. Economy.

Women Impacting Public Policy is a non-profit, national nonpartisan group with over half-a-million members. WIPP is The Collective Voice in Washington, DC, for 50 national women and small business organizations. WIPP advocates for and on behalf of women and minorities in business in the legislative processes of our nation, creating economic opportunities for members and building alliances with other small business organizations. Visit www.wipp.org.