



57 South Center Drive
Daleville, Virginia 24083
January 26, 2022

Joby P. Timm, Forest Supervisor
5162 Valleypointe Parkway
Roanoke, VA 24019

Dear Mr. Timm,

I write today on behalf of the Botetourt Board of Supervisors and the 34,000+ county citizens to support efforts to allow fiber optic cables (and communication they carry) to traverse the George Washington and Jefferson National Forest Land following appropriate erosion and sediment laws and industry standards as required.

Fiber Optic cable is necessary for Broadband connections and Broadband connections are necessary for today's society even in the most remote locations of our community/state/nation. Broadband is basically a new utility for the masses.

Botetourt County has invested or caused to have been invested approximately \$38 million dollars to provide Universal Broadband service to all of Botetourt County and some of the connections will need to cross portions of the National Forest properties. The need for these connections are immeasurable from public safety to telemedicine, telehealth, remote education, remote work and entertainment.

I would highly encourage you to approve the requests of the various providers to cross the National Forest lands with fiber optic cables.

If you have questions, please contact me at 540-797-7623.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Gary Larowe'.

Gary Larowe
County Administrator

COUNTY ADMINISTRATION
botetourtva.gov

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CC: Dr. Mac Scothorn
Dr. Richard Bailey
Mr. Ken McFadyen
Mr. Walter Grigg
Mr. Ed Diggs – Dominion
Mr. Mike Keyser – BARC Electric