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Intel Corporation Pledges Financial Support and Technology Expertise for Connect Appalachia Broadband Initiative

Intel Americas' Linda Kenworthy to chair the Task Force's Technology Committee

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Columbus, Ohio — The Connect Appalachia Broadband Initiative (CABI) Task Force is pleased to announce Intel Corporation as a partner in the efforts to bridge the digital divide that exists in Ohio's Appalachian region. Intel Corporation has pledged its support of the initiative with a generous financial contribution to offset Task Force administrative and monthly meeting costs, as well as offering technology expertise through the addition of Linda Kenworthy, business development manager for Intel Americas, as chair of the Task Force's technology sub-committee.

"Intel is pleased to support this critical initiative to help ensure that all citizens have an opportunity to participate in the innovation economy," said Kenworthy. "This is an exciting project which will benefit Ohioans - knowledge, technology, entrepreneurship, and innovation are core economic drivers."

Intel, the world leader in silicon innovation, develops technologies, products, and initiatives to continually advance how people work and live. Intel innovation started with the invention of the microprocessor in 1971 and continues today. In fact, the latest Intel processors require 1/7000th of the power needed by the first Intel chips. If automobile fuel efficiency improved at the same rate, today's cars would get 100,000 miles per gallon. Intel innovation adds intelligence to IT products and operations. For more information on Intel's commitment to supporting digital equity, go to www.intel.com/education.

"Linda's addition to CABI and Intel's generous financial contribution not only brings critical expertise in addressing equipment adoption barriers, but also takes our efforts in Appalachian Ohio to a whole new level in terms of credibility and global exposure," said Stu Johnson, co-chairperson for the Task Force and executive director of Connect Ohio.

"We are honored to welcome Linda to the Task Force," said Jason Wilson, cochairperson for the Task Force and director of the Governor's Office of Appalachia. "I appreciate her willingness to serve and look forward to the vast perspective, expertise, and resources that Intel can bring to our initiative."

The Task Force is comprised of leaders from public, private, and government organizations with a vested interest in increasing broadband availability and use to Appalachian Ohio. At monthly meetings, members discuss current broadband expansion projects for this region and collaboratively develop plans and solutions for moving these projects forward and fostering additional expansion projects. The mission of the initiative is to pull Appalachian Ohio to within state and national standards in broadband adoption by 2014. A full list of CABI members can be viewed here.

The next Task Force meeting will be held April 19, 2012, in Cambridge.

Click here for more information on the Connect Appalachia Broadband Initiative

Download Connect Ohio's Technology Barriers and Adoption in Rural Appalachian Ohio report.

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About Connect Ohio: Connect Ohio, a division of Connected Nation, is a leading technology organization committed to bringing affordable high-speed Internet and broadband-enabled resources to all Ohioans. Connect Ohio effectively raises the awareness of the value of broadband and works to improve technology access, adoption, and use through its programs. Connect Ohio is a nonprofit, technology-neutral public-private partnership. For more information about what Connect Ohio is doing to accelerate technology in Ohio's communities, visit http://www.connectohio.org. Follow Connect Ohio on Facebook and Twitter.

About Governor's Office of Appalachia: As an advocate for Ohio's 32 Appalachian counties, the Governor's Office of Appalachia works on behalf of the Appalachian Regional Commission in Washington, D.C. to promote the region's assets and to support local, regional, state, and federal initiatives. These initiatives contribute to the economic, educational, and community prosperity of the people of Ohio's Appalachian region.

About Chesapeake Energy: Chesapeake is the second-largest producer of natural gas, a Top 15 producer of oil and natural gas liquids and the most active driller of new wells in the U.S. Headquartered in Oklahoma City, the company's operations are focused on discovering and developing unconventional natural gas and oil fields onshore in the U.S. Chesapeake owns leading positions in the Barnett, Haynesville, Bossier, Marcellus and Pearsall natural gas shale plays and in the Granite Wash, Cleveland, Tonkawa, Mississippi Lime, Bone Spring, Avalon, Wolfcamp, Wolfberry, Eagle Ford, Niobrara, Three Forks/Bakken and Utica unconventional liquids plays. The company has also vertically integrated its operations and owns substantial midstream, compression, drilling, trucking, pressure pumping and other oilfield service assets.