

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE The Inspector General Washington, D.C. 20230

December 17, 2010

MEMORANDUM TO: Lawrence E. Strickling, Assistant Secretary for Communication and Information, National Telecommunications and Information Administration

Todd J. Zinser

FROM:

SUBJECT:

Notification of Inquiry Related to Broadband Technology Opportunities Program Award Made to Motorola

On November 1, 2010, the County Executive for Santa Clara, California, wrote to me expressing concerns about the \$50,593,551 Broadband Technology Opportunities Program award made to the San Francisco Bay Area Wireless Enhanced Broadband (BayWEB) project.

In order to respond to the County Executive's correspondence, I have asked my staff to obtain additional facts. Specifically, we intend to examine the procedures followed by NTIA in reviewing the initial complaint from the County of Santa Clara and City of San Jose prior to preparing its October 1, 2010, response, and subsequent actions to look into the issue. Second, we will review the valuation of equipment provided as matching share by the grantee, in addition to the equipment being purchased from the grantee as part of the BayWEB project.

We appreciate NTIA's cooperation in this matter. For further information, please contact me or Ann Eilers, Principal Assistant Inspector General for Audit and Evaluation, at 202-482-2754.

cc: Anthony G. Wilhelm, Director Broadband Technology Opportunities Program

