

From: F. X. Flinn - ECFiber Chair <chair@ecfiber.net>
Sent: Tuesday, April 27, 2021 8:08 AM
To: Faith Brown <FBrown@leg.state.vt.us>
Subject: [External] Two guiding stars for this week's decisions

[External]

1) The mountaintop is building out fiber to the premises to all on-grid locations in Vermont. (Act 79 of 2019)

2) Vermont is going to have to find its own way to the top because none of the national providers are going to do it.

#1 creates a 50 year payoff and sets the stage for Vermont to become an economic powerhouse in a world of remote work.

#2 means letting VCBA figure out the details -- there are too many complexities to legislate the route to the mountaintop. Arming the VCBA with the ability to use CUDs as funding points creates leverage with private internet providers that the state otherwise does not have.

The analogy is JFK saying let's go to the moon and back before 1970, and NASA figuring out how, creating their own organizations like the Houston Space Center but also working with aerospace industry titans like Grumman.

Vermont is saying FTTP everywhere on the grid by 2026, VCBA is NASA, CUDs are like NASA centers (Houston, Canaveral, Huntsville, Wallops Island, JPL etc), and there are a variety of private concerns that will have an economic interest in making the goal happen.

I hope you've had a chance to see my op-ed's in [VTDigger](#) (re #1) and the [Valley News](#) (re #2).

Thanks for taking the time to read this.

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