

STATE OF ALASKA

SARAH PALIN, Governor

**ANILCA IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM
Office of Project Management and Permitting**

550 W. 7TH AVENUE, SUITE 705
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501
PH: (907) 269-7529 / FAX: (907) 334-2509
susan.magee@alaska.gov

December 14, 2007

Paul Anderson, Superintendent
Denali National Park and Preserve
P.O. Box 9
Denali Park, AK 99755

Dear Mr. Anderson:

The State of Alaska reviewed the November 15, 2007 Press Release regarding the GCI proposal to install a fiber optic cable within the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT) George Parks Highway right-of-way (ROW) that passes through the eastern portion of Denali National Park and Preserve for approximately six miles. The following represent the consolidated comments from state agencies.

We strongly support the National Park Service's intent to authorize the proposed action, which is an important connecting link to a larger communication system serving numerous communities in Alaska. We further understand the scope of the project and any potential related impacts will be located within the existing ADOT George Parks Highway ROW and that the Service is considering authorizing the proposal as a categorically excluded action. As such, in addition to our general support, we further agree this does not appear to be a major federal action with measureable impacts on the human environment and the application of a Categorical Exclusion appropriately meets the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Susan E. Magee
ANILCA Project Coordinator

cc: Sally Gibert, ANILCA Program Coordinator