



**UNITED STATES  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

April 5, 2012

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**ARMED SERVICES**  
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SUBCOMMITTEE:  
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT  
  
**SMALL BUSINESS**  
SUBCOMMITTEE:  
CONTRACTING AND TECHNOLOGY

Mr. Charles Manto, CEO  
Instant Access Networks, LLC  
230 Baltimore Ave.  
Cumberland, MD 21502

Dear Mr. Manto:

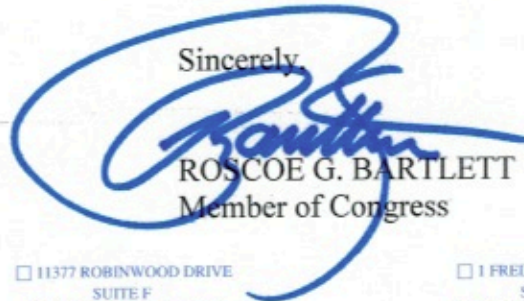
I want to personally congratulate you and express appreciation for the development of the new nationwide InfraGard EMP SIG (electromagnetic pulse special interest group). Your initiation and help in organizing the historic contingency planning work on space weather planning of the National Defense University (NDU) and the Maryland Emergency Management Agency at NDU October 3-5 and the US Capitol Visitor Center in Washington, D.C. on October 6, 2011 was instrumental in its success. InfraGard also supported the follow-on academic conference of the Policy Studies Organization on December 2, 2011 in Washington, D.C.

Up until this series of workshops and exercise on October 3-6, no contingency planning had been developed for a nationwide collapse of critical infrastructure which could last more than a few weeks. InfraGard support was not only timely then, but, I know of no other organization that can foster future trusted conversations among the nation's leading providers and protectors of our critical infrastructure to work through these issues.

As the nation addresses high-impact threats that range from the hundred-year solar storm to cyber attacks, successful contingency planning and mitigation will ultimately depend on how local communities will become more sustainable. One of the key ways to foster local sustainability would be for each community to make 20% of their own power. More often than not, local power will use renewable energy with all the environmental and energy security benefits that result. This addresses a strategic convergence of energy security and critical infrastructure vulnerability that reflects my own long-term work in Congress. To be successful, it is critical to engage public and private sector leaders across all critical infrastructure sector. I trust that InfraGard will continue to take a leading role in helping our nation to competently confront these threats.

Again, thank you for your volunteer support of InfraGard and I look forward to more good things to come.

Sincerely,



ROSCOE G. BARTLETT  
Member of Congress