

Broadband USA Applications Database

Applicant Name: JOYTEL WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS INC

Public Notice Submissions

-----**Service Area:** POP 6 CHARLTON

Submitter: Comcast Cable

Comment: Attached is a summary of the Comcast Cable homes passed, subscriber and advertising information related to the service areas encompassed by this application.

-----**Service Area:** POP 9 Volusia

Submitter: CenturyLink

Comment: CenturyLink has an extensive broadband footprint today, and has committed to extend that service even further. As part of its merger commitments to the Federal Communications Commission, CenturyLink committed to offer retail broadband Internet access service to 100% of its broadband eligible access lines by July 1, 2012. Consequently, virtually no areas served by CenturyTel or Embarq local operating companies, in any state, will be underserved or unserved at the end of three years.

CenturyLink also agreed to meet targets for minimum download speeds. CenturyLink will ensure availability of retail broadband Internet access service with a download speed of 1.5 Mbps to 87% of the broadband eligible access lines by July 1, 2011. It will ensure availability with a download speed of 3 Mbps to 75% of broadband eligible access lines by July 1, 2010, to 78% of broadband eligible lines by July 1, 2011, and to 80% of broadband eligible lines within 3 years of the close date. Nationwide, our average tele-density is 23 customers per square mile. This commitment ensures availability of broadband even to very rural consumers.

The agency should consider the importance of this commitment, as CenturyLink's continuing investment inevitably will make applications that overlap CenturyLink service areas less viable. CenturyLink has proven, industry-leading experience in deploying broadband networks and services using both wireline

and wireless technology, and a strong commitment and focus on rural areas. Today, it serves 7 million access lines and 2.1 million broadband customers in 33 states.

Submitter: Bright House Networks, LLC

Comment: In support of NTIA and RUS' efforts to optimize the distribution of the scarce resources available under the ARRA Broadband NOFA, Bright House Networks is providing additional data related to this Applicant's planned service areas. This application includes service areas which are not unserved nor underserved.

-----**Service Area:** POP 14 Broward

Submitter: Comcast Cable

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-----**Service Area:** POP 7 Duval

Submitter: Comcast Cable

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-----**Service Area:** POP 4 MONTGOMERY

Submitter: Plant Telecommunications

Comment: Plant Telecommunications (“Plant”) is responding to this Public Notice Filing regarding Joytel Wireless Communications, Inc. (Joytel) application for broadband funding under the ARRA. The applicant’s proposed funded service area is located in middle Georgia and covers parts of Montgomery County. Plant is an incumbent broadband provider that currently offers broadband service (as defined in the NOFA) to 95% of its service area as outlined in response area map in Montgomery County. For the proposed funded service area which overlaps with Plant’ incumbent service area, the applicant claims that it is “underserved”. The data provided in this response demonstrates that the applicant’s claim that the overlap with the proposed funded service area is “underserved” is not true.

Submitter: Windstream

Comment: Windstream’s data strongly suggest that the proposed funded service area likely does not qualify as an underserved area. Windstream offers facilities-based, terrestrial broadband service (meeting the definition set forth in the Notice of Funds Availability) to some of the households in the proposed funded service area, and such households can readily subscribe to Windstream’s broadband service upon request. Windstream also has reason to believe that competitive broadband offerings are available in exchanges overlapping the proposed funded service area. Given this information, agency officials should further investigate existing broadband offerings within the proposed funded service area, so that officials can be sure that the area, in fact, qualifies as underserved.

Windstream is a communications and entertainment company with more than 1 million broadband customers in 16 states. Investing more than \$200 million in broadband deployment over the last several years, Windstream now offers approximately 89% of its 3 million voice customers access to quality and affordable broadband service.

The agencies define an “underserved area” as follows: “Underserved area means a proposed funded service area, composed of one or more contiguous census blocks meeting certain criteria that measure the availability of broadband service and the level of advertised broadband speeds. These criteria conform to the two distinct components of the Broadband Infrastructure category of eligible projects- Last Mile and Middle Mile. Specifically, a proposed funded service area may qualify as underserved for last mile projects if at least one of the following factors is met, though the presumption will be that more than one factor is present: 1. No more than 50 percent of the households in the proposed funded service area have access to facilities-based, terrestrial broadband service at greater than the minimum broadband transmission speed (set forth in the definition of broadband above); 2. No fixed or mobile broadband service provider advertises broadband transmission speeds of at least three megabits per second (“mbps”) downstream in the proposed funded service area; or 3. The rate of broadband

subscribership for the proposed funded service area is 40 percent of households or less. A proposed funded service area may qualify as underserved for Middle Mile projects if one interconnection point terminates in a proposed funded service area that qualifies as unserved or underserved for Last Mile projects

Submitter: Comcast Cable

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-----**Service Area:** POP 3 WILKINSON

Submitter: Windstream

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-----**Service Area:** POP 13 Palm Beach

Submitter: Comcast Cable

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-----**Service Area:** POP 10 & 11 Brevard

Submitter: Bright House Networks, LLC

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-----**Service Area:** PoP 1 Fulton

Submitter: Windstream

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Submitter: Comcast Cable

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-----**Service Area:** POP 5 APPLING

Submitter: Windstream

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terminates in a proposed funded service area that qualifies as unserved or underserved for Last Mile projects.”

-----**Service Area:** POP 15 & 16 MIAMI DADE

Submitter: Comcast Cable

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-----**Service Area:** POP 2 Jasper

Submitter: Windstream

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-----**Service Area:** POP 8 St. JOHNS

Submitter: Windstream

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-----**Service Area:** POP 12 St. Lucie

Submitter: Comcast Cable

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