

Broadband USA Applications Database

Applicant Name: AIM Wireless Solutions

Public Notice Submissions

-----**Service Area:** SE Kentucky

Submitter: Coalfields Telephone Company

Comment: Coalfields Telephone Company (CTC) is filing a response to the ARRA broadband infrastructure application submitted by AIM Wireless Solutions (AIM). CTC operates three telephone exchanges in Floyd County and Pike County, Kentucky. AIM's proposed funded service area covers a large portion of southeast Kentucky, including CTC's service area, and claims the area to be unserved. CTC currently provides broadband services over its telephone network via DSL technology. Broadband service is available to the majority of CTC's service area. CTC has experienced steady growth in broadband take rates in recent years and expects this trend to continue in the future.

Submitter: T.V. Service, Inc.

Comment: T.V. Service, Inc.(TVS) is filing a response to the ARRA broadband infrastructure application submitted by AIM Wireless Solutions (AIM). TVS currently operates a CATV network in portions of Knott, Floyd, Perry, Letcher, and Leslie counties in Kentucky. AIM's proposed funded service area covers a large portion of southeast Kentucky, including TVS's service area, and claims the area to be unserved. In addition to cable television services, TVS provides broadband services throughout its service area. TVS's CATV network is capable of providing broadband speeds up to 10 Mbps. TVS began providing broadband services in 2001 and has experienced rapid growth in broadband take rates ever since. This trend is expected to continue in the future as the need for broadband increases.

Submitter: Utopian Wireless Corporation

Comment: Proprietary data regarding actual service provider broadband penetration in the proposed service area for this application demonstrates the area is already served by broadband options and therefore this application is ineligible for funding pursuant to the requirements of the Broadband Initiatives Program (BIP) and Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP).

Submitter: NewWave Communications

Comment: NewWave currently serves multiple areas within this proposed service area. All offer speeds up to 15 MG. In Bell County, 31% of homes are passed. Another provider also serves this area as well. In Knox County/Flat Lick, 19% of homes are passed, along with another provider. In Pineville, 24% of homes are passed along with another provider. In Laurel County, 14% of homes are passed along with two other provider. In Williamsburg, NewWave serves 29% of homes passed along with another provider. In Corbin, 30% of homes passed are served along with another provider.

Submitter: Inter Mountain Cable

Comment: Inter Mountain Cable (IMC) is filing a response to the ARRA broadband infrastructure application submitted by AIM Wireless Solutions (AIM). IMC currently operates a CATV network in portions of Floyd, Pike, Letcher, and Knott counties in Kentucky. AIM's proposed funded service area covers a large portion of southeast Kentucky, including IMC's service area, and claims the area to be unserved. In addition to cable television services, IMC provides broadband services throughout its service area. IMC's CATV network is capable of providing broadband speeds up to 6 Mbps. IMC has experienced steady growth in broadband take rates in recent years and expects this trend to continue as the need for broadband increases.

Submitter: Time Warner Cable

Comment: As shown in the attached map and exhibit, TWC currently provides broadband Internet access service in the Proposed Funded Service Area. In addition, we advertise service of speeds above 3 Mbps throughout this service area. We pass over 50% of households, and either (1) have actual broadband subscribership of over 40% of the households in these census blocks or (2) the combined broadband subscribership of the wireline broadband providers (including TWC) in these census blocks is reasonably likely to exceed 40%. Therefore, that portion of the proposed funded service area that overlaps Respondent's service area reflected in this response is neither "unserved" or "underserved."

Submitter: Access Cable Television, Inc.

Comment: This public notice response relates to the classification of the applicant's service as unserved or underserved for the areas that overlap with our service area in the Cities of Cumberland, Benham, and Lynch, Kentucky

Submitter: Windstream

Comment: Windstream's data strongly suggest that the proposed funded service area likely does not qualify as an unserved area. Windstream offers facilities-based, terrestrial broadband service at advertised speeds of greater than 768 kbps downstream and 200 kbps upstream to some of the households within 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 unserved.

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 "unserved area" as follows: "Unserved area means a proposed funded service area, composed of one or more contiguous census blocks, where at least 90 percent of households in the proposed funded service area lack access to facilities-based, terrestrial broadband service, either fixed or mobile, at the minimum broadband transmission speed (set forth in the definition of broadband above). A household has access to broadband service if the household can readily subscribe to that service upon request.

Submitter: Thacker-Grigsby Telephone Company

Comment: Thacker-Grigsby Telephone Company (TG) is filing a response to the ARRA broadband infrastructure application submitted by AIM Wireless Solutions (AIM). TG operates six telephone exchanges in Knott County, Kentucky. The map of the AIM's proposed funded service area includes the majority of Knott County and claims the area to be unserved. TG currently provides broadband services at affordable rates throughout Knott County. Using ADSL technology, TG's telephone network is capable of providing broadband service to 100% of its coverage area. In addition, TG began the RUS-financed (KY536H) deployment of a state-of-the-art fiber-to-the-premise network in 2008 which will be capable of providing even faster broadband services to customers. TG has experienced steady growth in broadband take rates in recent years and expects this trend to continue in the future.

Submitter: Suddenlink Communications

Comment: This response conclusively demonstrates that Suddenlink and its competitors already offer robust broadband service within the mapped area of the applicant’s proposed funded service area and that this mapped area is neither unserved nor underserved. Additional information is provided in the uploaded document, including (1) sample marketing material; (2) a guide on how to read the data we entered in the “Existing Broadband Subscribers” section of this response; (3) a summary of the vendor and methodology used for estimating competitive-service subscribers in the mapped area; (4) Suddenlink contact information, should one or more federal agencies have questions or require additional information; and (5) a summary of concerns with the response process and the limitations that process has placed on our ability to provide NTIA/RUS with relevant, timely data.