

## Broadband USA Applications Database

**Applicant Name:** KeyOn Communications, Inc.

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### Public Notice Submissions

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-----**Service Area:** Kansas

**Submitter:** Rural Telephone Service Co., Inc./Nex-Tech, Inc.

**Comment:** Rural Telephone Service Co., Inc., an RUS borrower since 1952, and our wholly owned subsidiary Nex-Tech, Inc., offer broadband service within the Proposed Funded Service Area as shown on the map. Portions of this area are underserved and/or unserved as defined in the NOFA.

**Submitter:** Rainbow Communications

**Comment:** Rainbow Telecommunications Association, Inc. dba Rainbow Communications is a phone, Internet, and cable TV service provider in rural northeast Kansas. The telecommunications company is headquartered in Everest, Kansas, and has been in existence since 1952. While Rainbow Telecommunications has offered high speed DSL- Internet for many years, the company has since expanded its service offerings in 2006 through a CLEC operation, Carson Communications dba Rainbow Communications. Rainbow Communications is able to provide high speed DSL, cable modem, and fiber-based Internet in many northeast Kansas rural communities. It is our goal to provide communication technology which rivals or surpasses those available in metro areas.

**Submitter:** The Tri-County Telephone Association, Inc.

**Comment:** The Tri-County Telephone Association, Inc. (TCT) has been providing high-quality communications services to rural Kansas for over 46 years. During this time, there has been much technological advancement, providing new services. TCT is committed to providing our customers with advanced, reliable communications service, regardless of where they live and work.

In 2001, TCT proved this commitment by making substantial investment in upgrading its core facilities including digital switches and a fiber fed network. This cutting-edge technology allowed TCT to offer advanced communication services, including broadband access to 100% of its service areas. TCT, in looking toward the future, has embarked on a Fiber-To-The-Home (FTTH) project that, by the time it is complete in 2013, will connect every home and business in its service areas to fiber-speed bandwidth.

TCT is a local company that anchors the communities it serves. It provides much-needed jobs, 24-7 customer service and local offices. TCT provides necessary broadband services to community anchor institutions including schools, libraries, local government offices and public safety agencies. It serves from a local perspective because TCT's owners, who are also its customers, have a personal stake in the communities where they work and live.

Recently, TCT committed to further serve our customers by creating the TCT Community Development Initiative. This initiative supports infrastructures to attract new residents and businesses to TCT communities. TCT, one of the largest employers in the area, provides assistance in business development for both new and existing businesses. TCT will also acts as a liaison between local, state, and national economic development groups and contributes in local Community Development Groups.

**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:** Blue Valley Tele-Communications, Inc.

**Comment:** Blue Valley Tele-Communications, Inc. (BVTC) is a rural telephone cooperative that has been serving these remote and rural communities for over 50 years. BVTC was one of the first companies in the nation to offer High-Speed DSL to both in-town and rural customers no matter the distance from the central office. BVTC is also building for future applications and higher demands for broadband by investing in a fiber to the premise network that will reach 100% of its customers in their telephone exchanges, and was one of the first companies in the nation to attempt this type of network. On top of these offerings, BVTC offers Internet services via cable modems and wireless technologies to many communities that lie outside of their ILEC telephone exchanges.

As a cooperative, BVTC services are driven by customer need and demand and customers are represented by a Board of Directors to make sure those needs are being met. The company also employs a full-time economic development director to assist in growth of their service areas. BVTC is proud to be known as an industry leader in the broadband arena, and plans to continue leading the way in broadband development in the future.

**Submitter:** S&T Telephone Cooperative Association

**Comment:** S&T Communications LLC., a wholly owned non-regulated subsidiary of S&T Telephone Cooperative Assn., currently provides Broadband service in the cities of Goodland, Colby and Oakley, KS. 100% of the households have access to Broadband service at a rate of 768/200 Kbps or higher. The current residential take rate of Broadband services in the application area at a speed of 768/200 Kbps or higher is 40% of households. S&T Communications LLC offers a 3 Mbps service. The S&T Communications LLC operation at Oakley KS meets all ARRA NOFA requirements to be classified as a "Served" area.

**Submitter:** Haviland Telephone Co., Inc.

**Comment:** Haviland Telephone Co., Inc. provides Digital Subscriber Line broadband service in Kiowa County, Pratt County, Kingman County, Sumner County, KS at speeds exceeding the NOFA definition. The service is offered at every customer location. This includes the towns of Mullinville, Haviland, Cullison, Coats, Sawyer, Isabel, Nashville, Norwich, Argonia, Conway Springs, Riverdale and adjacent rural areas. The company also provides Wi-Max service in the town of Greensburg and adjacent rural areas to every customer location at speeds above the NOFA definition of broadband.

**Submitter:** South Central Telephone Association, SCTelcom

**Comment:** SCTA, established in 1953, is submitting a response to dispute service availability for a portion of the applicant's area. We would like to establish the fact that we are providing broadband access exceeding the 768 Kbps minimum as defined by the NOFA. We have been advertising High speed Broadband service of 1.5, 3, and 6Mbps in our response area.

**Submitter:** The Southern Kansas Telephone Co., Inc.

**Comment:** The Southern Kansas Telephone Co., Inc. (SKT) has been providing service to rural Kansas communities for 70 years. SKT is committed to providing rural Kansans broadband service that helps both increase the quality of life and allows them to conduct business in a much more productive manner. As an example of this commitment, SKT began offering broadband service in 2001. SKT has continuously upgraded its fiber network over the years to meet the service needs of its customers. SKT currently offers broadband service up to and exceeding 12.0 M downloads and 1.0 M uploads. SKT

customers benefit from local customer care, 24/7 support, multiple service discounts, free hardware and installation options that make broadband service more affordable and easier to get connected. SKT's owners and 54 employees are local Kansans who understand the needs of their customers and the importance of supporting the rural communities they serve. To help these communities flourish in the future, SKT provides complimentary broadband service to all local municipalities, including city, police, fire, and EMS locations, as well as libraries and senior centers. SKT will continue to focus on providing vital broadband services for rural Kansans.

**Submitter:** TC Wireless

**Comment:** TC Wireless, Inc, along with its parent company The Tri-County Telephone Association, Inc., has been providing communications services to rural Kansas for over 46 years. TC Wireless was formed in 2004 specifically to provide wireless broadband services to communities that larger companies ignored. TC Wireless is a pioneer in providing high-quality services over the 700 Mhz wireless spectrum. It acquired its licenses at auction in 2002, taking a chance on the unproven spectrum. It began providing services in this band as soon as equipment was available. To meet the specific needs of the communities it serves, TC Wireless has expanded its offerings to include the 900 MHz and 2.4 MHz bands.

By utilizing an array of licensed and unlicensed spectrum, TC Wireless achieved a task five years ago that some still say today is not possible – bringing high speed Internet access to rural and remote areas. It did this, at considerable cost, because, as a local company, TC Wireless' owners, who are also its customers, have a personal stake in the communities where they work and live. As a result, TC Wireless is providing rural America with advanced, reliable communications service.

**Submitter:** KanOkla Networks

**Comment:** KanOkla Networks has been providing our customers the best in telecommunications/data technology for almost 60 years. We are the leader in our service areas for rolling out new and innovative services to our subscribers. We currently offer broadband service, at speeds up to 6 Mbps, to 100% of our current and potential customers. KanOkla is in the midst of installing Fiber To The Home (FTTH) to all of our exchange areas, bringing the capability of 100 Mbps to all homes and businesses throughout our areas. This project, with its wealth of bandwidth for our subscribers, will position our communities for the future.

**Submitter:** Wheat State Telephone, Inc

**Comment:** Wheat State Telephone has been serving 6 rural communities in south central Kansas for almost 60 years. Some of our service areas are in the heart of sparsely populated cattle country, yet we are committed to delivering high speed broadband service to all of our customers. Wheat State Telephone was the first provider of broadband service in the area as early as July, 2000. Since then we have continually upgraded our network to bring higher speeds to more and more of our subscribers. Wheat State Telephone continues to be a leader in broadband services. Based on the NOFA definition of broadband these communities are neither unserved nor underserved.

Wheat State Telephone is a community based company, with just under 50% of its staff being residents of the communities we serve. Our employees are active in the communities, volunteering with numerous events and serving on various local boards or committees.

**Submitter:** GBT Communications

**Comment:** Golden Belt Telephone and its affiliate, GBT Communications (GBT) have been providing high-quality communications services to rural and remote communities in Western Kansas for over 56 years. GBT is committed to bringing cutting-edge technologies to residents of areas that larger providers ignore. As a result, GBT has pioneered many services in this part of the country including providing broadband services for over 12 years and now has over 3,000 broadband customers throughout its service areas that can access the Internet at speeds up to 6 Mbps. To ensure that its customers' traffic had the best possible backbone, GBT began laying fiber to connect its remote service areas in 1989. Twenty years later, GBT's customers enjoy advanced services due to over 1000 miles of fiber within GBT's service areas. Looking to the future when customers will need large amounts of bandwidth at high speeds, GBT has begun a Fiber-To-The-Home (FTTH) project. Upon completion, 100% of customers in regulated service areas will have broadband access at fiber-speeds.

Currently, GBT customers can access broadband services through a variety of technologies, including FTTH, traditional copper, fixed wireless, unlicensed wireless (Wi-Fi) and cable modem. GBT employs multiple broadband technologies based on its knowledge of the specific needs of the communities it serves coupled with its half-century of experience providing advanced communication services in difficult to serve areas.

GBT is a local company that anchors the communities it serves. It provides much-needed jobs, 24-7 customer service and local offices. GBT provides necessary broadband services to community anchor institutions including schools, libraries, local government offices and public safety agencies. It serves from a local perspective because GBT's owners, who are also its customers, have a personal stake in the communities where they work and live.

**Submitter:** Wilson Telephone Co Inc dba Wilson Communications

**Comment:** Wilson Communications has been providing high quality and leading technology telecommunications services to rural Kansans for more than sixty years. Wilson Communications began offering high speed internet access service to our customers in the late 1990's. We continued to expand our fiber network and now can provide broadband services to 100% of our customers. Wilson Communications continues to make investments in fiber optic facilities to ensure our customers have access to the latest broadband technology. We provide broadband to critical community anchor institutions including schools, rural health clinics, and public libraries. We are a full service provider of communications services and are able to bundle services offering discounts to our customers. Wilson Communications is a community based company, providing volunteerism, and other forms of support to each of the seven communities we serve.

**Submitter:** Cunningham Communications

**Comment:** Cunningham Telephone Company, with its affiliate Cunningham Communications has been providing high-quality communications services to the residents of the rural communities of northwestern Kansas for more than 65 years. It was one of the first providers in this remote area to offer broadband services eleven years ago. Currently, almost 100% of Cunningham's service areas have broadband capability reaching speeds up to 10 Mbps.

In keeping with its long tradition of providing cutting-edge technologies, Cunningham has begun a Fiber To The Home (FTTH) project. Through this FTTH project, estimated to be completed in 2012, every customer in a majority of Cunningham's service areas, even in the most remote rural areas, will have a direct fiber feed from their home and business to the world.

Cunningham is a local company that helps anchor the communities it serves. It provides much-needed jobs, 24-7 customer service and local offices. Cunningham provides necessary broadband services to community anchor institutions including schools, libraries, local government offices and public safety

agencies. It serves from a local perspective because Cunningham's owners and employees have a personal stake in the communities where they work and live.