

## Broadband USA Applications Database

**Applicant Name:** ComPros, Inc.

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### Public Notice Submissions

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-----**Service Area:** ComPros, Inc

**Submitter:** Last Mile, Inc. (d/b/a Sting Communications)

**Comment:** ComPros, Inc has filed a middle mile proposal for backhaul that is 99.999% reliable and robust enough to be cost effective for Government, Public Safety, Healthcare and Education. This proposal to provide carrier class of the middle mile Ethernet transport in the 4 county communities is an overbuild of existing Carrier middle mile services in all proposed counties. This is a redundant project that ignores the existing regional middle mile broadband networks previously funded by federal (eRate and FCC Rural Healthcare) and PA state (efund) grants.

There are numerous middle mile, broadband networks offering competitively priced 100 Mbps to 10 Gbps service to schools, hospitals and government agencies in the exact same service areas proposed by ComPros, Inc.

Sting Communications, as well as other carriers are already providing reliable, cost effective middle mile solutions in this area, including services available to Get Wirless, ComPros, and Raystown Wireless. In 2007 and 2008, Sting Communications brought fiber service to the Huntingdon and Mt Union areas, as well as affordable Internet and Ethernet WAN services across the proposed service area. Over the past three years, we have been expanding middle mile and last mile services to local ISPs as well as schools and hospitals in this service area. Sting Communications is currently providing 100 Mb Ethernet service to most, if not all of the school districts in the proposed service area. We also offers backhaul and direct to tower internet services on a microwave and fiber backbone. Most of these projects are subsidized through Pennsylvania eFund and Federal eRate support.

Currently, schools and hospitals receiving service from the Sting Communications middle mile service area enjoy broadband rates of \$800 - \$1200 per month for 10 Mbps, \$1,400 to \$2,200 per month for 100 Mbps service and \$1,800-3,000 for 1 Gbps service. In addition, the cost of wholesale internet and backhaul to carriers is being provided at highly competitive rates previously only seen in major metropolitan areas.

ComPros' proposed users could easily leverage the existing middle mile backbone networks in operation today. These networks, and last mile access to the anchor institutions, are provided by Last Mile, as well as other local carriers including Comcast, Zayo, CenturyLink, Atlantic Broadband, and many others.

We encourage NTIA to redirect ComPros to the existing statewide middle mile network providers who stand ready to support their goals to offer affordable, enhanced broadband services to Public Safety, PreK-12, higher education, healthcare, libraries and state and local governments.

**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.

**Submitter:** Atlantic Broadband

**Comment:** ComPros has listed several communities in Blair County as 'underserved.' Atlantic Broadband provides high speed data to businesses and residences in several of these communities including Allegheny Township, Altoona, Antis Township, Bellwood Borough, Blair Township, Catharine Township, Duncansville Borough, Frankstown Township, Freedom Township, Hollidaysburg Borough, Juniata Township, Logan Township, Martinsburg Borough, Newry Borough, North Woodbury Township, Roaring Springs Borough, Snyder Township, Taylor Township, Tyrone Township, and Woodbury Township. High speed broadband is available to well over 50% of the residents and businesses in these areas, at speeds far in excess of the minimum threshold of 768/200 kpbs. Speeds well in excess of 3mpbs are offered and advertised. (Documentation attached). The subscription rate for Atlantic Broadband's high speed Internet service is greater than 40% in these communities. Thus they do not meet the standards required for underserved.