

Broadband USA Applications Database

Applicant Name: Norlight Telecommunications, Inc

Public Notice Submissions

-----**Service Area:** 24 County Southern IL.

Submitter: Avenue Broadband Communications, Inc.

Comment: Avenue provides 10 Mgbps and 3 Mgbps high speed internet service to the Service Area. Verizon also provides DSL service to the Service Area at advertised speeds of 3 Mgbps. Between Avenue and Verizon, penetration levels exceed 40% of homes passed

Submitter: Egyptian Telephone Cooperative Association

Comment: Egyptian Telephone Cooperative Association provides comments on this application regarding underserved designation of the proposed funded area.

Submitter: NewWave Communications

Comment: NewWave currently serves multiple areas within this proposed service area along with various other providers. So, service is already widely available. 3 MG or higher is available to all through NewWave. Percentage of data customers vs. homes passed: Brownstown 4%; McCleansboro 10%; Sparta 14%; Mt. Carmel 16%, Fairfield 9%, Carmi 8% and Crossville 32%.

Submitter: Shawnee Telephone Company

Comment: Norlight Telecommunications, Inc.'s application for Broadband Stimulus Funds is proposing to cover the exchange areas that are served by Shawnee Telephone Company. We currently serve the areas marked on our overlay map by an existing combination copper and fiber network that extends from our corporate headquarters in Equality, IL. In the public notice response Shawnee is providing; 1) a map of the overlapping area Shawnee provides broadband services, 2) Shawnee's DSL high speed internet advertising 3) the number of residential households and business establishments capable of receiving broadband services, 4) the number of residential households and business establishments subscribing to our broadband, 5) the advertised download and upload speeds and service rates, and 6) comments addressing the existing services offered within the proposed funded service area.

Submitter: Wabash Independent Networks

Comment: Wabash Independent Networks provides comments on this application regarding the underserved designation of the proposed funded area.

Submitter: Wisper ISP Inc.

Comment: We are a High Speed Wireless company that has been serving the mapped area for 6+ years with great success. We advertise packages ranging from 1Mbps to 5Mbps in every town we service. We also do custom links up to Gigabit speeds which have been done successfully for several businesses. We have a network of over 130 towers ranging in height from 30 ft to 1,500 ft in our coverage areas and this number is ever growing. We work with many

city governments and have provided private wireless links for several city Police, Fire, water and park departments. When considering the numbers we have submitted please remember that the overall percentages of coverage will look low because our network covers metro as well as rural towns. In Metro areas we are a small competitor with the major telco and cable providers. We also have several wireless competitors in the rural areas including Celerity

Wireless, Tin Cans, HTC to name a few. Our Customer statistics show 10 to 65% subscription rate with Wisper ISP alone in these rural areas. They also show that over 85% of rural homes in these areas have access to our towers as well as the towers of our competitors. As our tower numbers grow and technology gets better our converge area expands dramatically. We therefore submit that our area is not Unserved and/or Underserved. Wisper ISP Inc. has

already been providing high speed wireless internet to the rural communities of our area with a 6+ year track record of success. Wisper has 21 dedicated employees and their families providing service to 3,500+ customers. The Federal money would be better used in other areas that are truly unserved/underserved.

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: Citizens Telecommunications Company of Illinois

Comment: A portion of the applicant's territory is already served by the respondent. 3MG speed or higher is available and advertised.