

Broadband USA Applications Database

Applicant Name: United Telephone Mutual Aid Corporation

Public Notice Submissions

-----**Service Area:** UTMA

Submitter: Midcontinent Communications

Comment: While Midcontinent Communications supports the goals of the ARRA and the need to provide service to rural states like North Dakota with limited population densities, Midcontinent has determined that it already provides broadband service to much of the area proposed to be served by this grant. Supporting information for this determination is contained elsewhere in this filing. As the major cable telecommunications provider in the State of North Dakota, Midcontinent has invested private risk capital to interconnect communities with a robust fiber optic network to deliver a wide range of advanced digital and broadband services. Since its initial launch in 1995 when Midcontinent became the first company in the state to offer cable modem broadband Internet services, Midcontinent has continually upgraded services for both business and residential customers throughout its service area. Today the standard Internet speed is 15 Mbps with 25 Mbps available. By the end of 2010, Midcontinent customers will have access to speeds of 50 Mbps. Much of the area that this grant applicant proposes to serve is already served by Midcontinent. As such, this application may not be eligible for grant funding.