

Broadband USA Applications Database

Applicant Name: Executive Office of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (Office of Administration)

_____Public Notice Submissions_____

-----**Service Area:** Carbon County

Submitter: Pencor

Comment: RESIDENTIAL PACKAGES

Blue Ridge Communications offers Residential High Speed Internet Packages that range from:
1.5 Megabits Downstream / 384 Kilobits Upstream to 15Megabits Downstream /2 Megabits Upstream.

COMMERCIAL PACKAGES

Blue Ridge Communications Commercial High Speed Internet Packages range from:
3 Megabits Downstream / 800 Kilobits Upstream to 15 Megabits Downstream / 2 Megabits Upstream.

Blue Ridge Communications/PTD Commercial High Speed Internet Packages range from:
2 Megabits Downstream / 1 Megabit Upstream to 12 Megabits Downstream / 2 Megabit Upstream

-----**Service Area:** Warren/Venango Counties

Submitter: Windstream

Comment: Windstream's data strongly suggest that the proposed funded service area likely does not qualify as an underserved area. Windstream offers facilities-based, terrestrial broadband service (meeting the definition set forth in the Notice of Funds Availability) to some of the households in 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 underserved.

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 “underserved area” as follows: “Underserved area means a proposed funded service area, composed of one or more contiguous census blocks meeting certain criteria that measure the availability of broadband service and the level of advertised broadband speeds. These criteria conform to the two distinct components of the Broadband Infrastructure category of eligible projects- Last Mile and Middle Mile. Specifically, a proposed funded service area may qualify as underserved for last mile projects if at least one of the following factors is met, though the presumption will be that more than one factor is present: 1. No more than 50 percent of the households in the proposed funded service area have access to facilities-based, terrestrial broadband service at greater than the minimum broadband transmission speed (set forth in the definition of broadband above); 2. No fixed or mobile broadband service provider advertises broadband transmission speeds of at least three megabits per second (“mbps”) downstream in the proposed funded service area; or 3. The rate of broadband subscribership for the proposed funded service area is 40 percent of households or less. A proposed funded service area may qualify as underserved for Middle Mile projects if one interconnection point terminates in a proposed funded service area that qualifies as unserved or underserved for Last Mile projects.”

Submitter: Armstrong Utilities Inc.

Comment: Significant portions of the proposed funded service area (PFSA) in the above Application do not satisfy the BIP or BTOP definitions of "unserved" or "underserved," and thus, should not be eligible to receive BIP or BTOP funding. Armstrong Cable provides broadband service at speeds of 3MBPS or greater throughout the portions of Applicant's PFSA mapped in this response. (Advertisement uploaded). Armstrong’s high speed broadband network passes more than 50%, and high speed broadband exceeds 40%, of households within the areas of Applicant's PFSA mapped herein. Given the presence of other broadband service providers in neighboring towns, it is reasonable to conclude that Applicant has failed to meet the required showings for its entire PFSA, and its application should be

denied. At a minimum, Applicant has failed to meet the required showing in the portions of its PFSA served by Armstrong, and therefore, its Application should be denied with respect to the areas mapped herein.

-----**Service Area:** West Clearfield County

Submitter: windstream

Comment: Windstream's data conclusively establish that the proposed funded service area does not qualify as an underserved area. Windstream offers facilities-based, terrestrial broadband service (meeting the definition set forth in the Notice of Funds Availability) to households in the proposed funded service area, and such households can readily subscribe to Windstream's broadband service upon request. Data regarding these broadband offerings, detailed below, establish that the proposed funded service area cannot meet all of the three prongs of the "underserved area" test.

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----**Service Area:** Potter/Cameron/Clinton/Forest County Area

Submitter: Windstream

Comment: Windstream's data conclusively establish that the proposed funded service area does not qualify as an underserved area. Windstream offers facilities-based, terrestrial broadband service (meeting the definition set forth in the Notice of Funds Availability) to households in the proposed funded service area, and such households can readily subscribe to Windstream's broadband service upon request. Data regarding these broadband offerings, detailed below, establish that the proposed funded service area cannot meet all of the three prongs of the "underserved area" test.

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Submitter: Pencor

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-----**Service Area:** East Clearfield County

Submitter: Tele-Media Company of Zion, L.L.C.

Comment: Tele-Media Company of Zion, LLC provides cable TV services including broadband and telephony in two areas of central Pennsylvania. A small portion (less than 1%)of one of those service areas is included within the applicant's service area. We provide broadband service that meets or exceeds the definition of broadband service in 100% of our service areas. Accordingly, our areas are not unserved or underserved.

Submitter: Windstream

Comment: Windstream's data strongly suggest that the proposed funded service area likely does not qualify as an underserved area. Windstream offers facilities-based, terrestrial broadband service (meeting the definition set forth in the Notice of Funds Availability) to some of the households in 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 underserved.

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-----**Service Area:** Centre/Union/Snyder Counties

Submitter: Windstream

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(meeting the definition set forth in the Notice of Funds Availability) to some of the households in 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 underserved.

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-----**Service Area:** Wyoming/Sullivan/Lycoming

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-----**Service Area:** Mercer/Venango Counties

Submitter: Armstrong Utilities Inc.

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-----**Service Area:** Erie/Crawford Counties

Submitter: Time Warner Cable, Inc.

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: Windstream

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