

Broadband USA Applications Database

Applicant Name: Allegiance Communications

Public Notice Submissions

-----**Service Area:** McCrory AR

Submitter: Ritter Communications

Comment: Ritter Communications responds to the application of Allegiance Communications in the McCrory area Arkansas. Ritter, through its affiliate Ritter Cable, offers broadband service to 100% of its service area that overlaps portions of the Allegiance Communications, McCrory PFSA. Because Ritter makes available broadband service to all of its customers in its service area included in McCrory, portions of the PFSA are not eligible for the underserved designation.

-----**Service Area:** Douglass-Oxford3

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.

-----**Service Area:** McCrory AR 2

Submitter: Ritter Communications

Comment: Ritter Communications responds to the filed application of Allegiance Communications for McCrory AR 2 area in Arkansas. Ritter, through Ritter Telephone and its affiliate Ritter Cable, provides broadband service to 100% of its service area, portions of which overlap in Allegiance Communications, McCrory 2. Because Ritter offers broadband availability to all customers in its service area that overlaps portions of the PFSA, portions of the PFSA do not qualify for the underserved designation.

-----**Service Area:** Douglass-Oxford2

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 the rural communities of Udall and Rock 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.

-----**Service Area:** Greensburg1

Submitter: Haviland Telephone Co., Inc.

Comment: Haviland Telephone provides 2 services in this area: A Wi-Max service that covers Greensburg town and a radius of about 8 miles around town; and a Digital Subscriber Line service along U.S. 54 from Joy westward to the Ford-Kiowa county line, including the town of Mullinville. The DSL service is available to 100% of locations inside the regulated area.

-----**Service Area:** Allegiance-Stratford1

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: Pottawatomie Telephone Company

Comment: Pottawatomie Telephone Company through its subsidiary, Cim-Tel Cable, LLC, has been offering broadband speed data service to subscribers for over 5 years. The area applied for by the ARRA applicant, which falls within the telephone exchange boundary is served with high speed internet broadband service. Cim-Tel Cable, LLC also offers IPTV service to its subscribers within the communities Pottawatomie serves.

-----**Service Area:** Peabody

Submitter: KeyOn Communications

Comment: KeyOn Communications currently provides access at speeds of at least 768kbps downstream and at least 200kbps upstream to more than 50% of the homes in the designated area.

-----**Service Area:** Allegiance-Chandler2

Submitter: Dobson Telephone Company

Comment: Dobson Telephone Company challenges the application of Allegiance Communications based on their declaration of the serving area being underserved.

Submitter: @Link Services, LLC

Comment: @Link Services LLC is an Oklahoma LLC that has been providing broadband services in Central Oklahoma since 2005. @Link provides high speed internet service with speeds of up to 6Mbps by utilizing fixed wireless technology in both licensed and unlicensed frequencies. @Link provides service in forty four rural, Oklahoma communities and four urban areas in Central Oklahoma through a network of more than 60 tower sites.

The proposed funded service areas overlaps the @Link service area. The overlapping service area has been documented with the use of the mapping tool.

@Link has included copies of advertisements for service within the proposed funded service area.

@Link has determined, at the census block level, the number of residential households currently capable of receiving @Link service. @Link has determined the total number of business establishments within the zip codes included in the polygon. Totals have been provided as requested and supporting documents are available if requested.

@Link has determined, at the census block level, the number of residences and businesses currently subscribing to @Link services as well as the advertised download and upload speeds. Totals have been provided as requested and supporting documentation is available as is necessary.

-----**Service Area:** Allegiance-Chandler1

Submitter: Dobson Telephone Company

Comment: Dobson Telephone Company challenges the application of Allegiance Communications based on their declaration of the serving area being underserved.

Submitter: @Link Services LLC

Comment: @Link Services LLC is an Oklahoma LLC that has been providing broadband services in Central Oklahoma since 2005. @Link provides high speed internet service with speeds of up to 6Mbps by utilizing fixed wireless technology in both licensed and unlicensed frequencies. @Link provides service in forty four rural, Oklahoma communities and four urban areas in Central Oklahoma through a network of more than 60 tower sites.

The proposed funded service areas overlaps the @Link service area. The overlapping service area has been documented with the use of the mapping tool.

@Link has included copies of advertisements for service within the proposed funded service area.

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@Link has determined, at the census block level, the number of residences and businesses currently subscribing to @Link services as well as the advertised download and upload speeds. Totals have been provided as requested and supporting documentation is available as is necessary.

-----**Service Area:** Preston Penn

Submitter: Cable One, Inc.

Comment: Cable One, Inc. is a multi-system broadband provider operating in 19 states. Cable One offers residential broadband service with speeds up to 10 MB and customizable commercial solutions with flexible bandwidth offerings from 5Mbps to 1 Gbps. By November 1, 2009, the majority of Cable One systems will also be offering 12 Mb residential broadband service with a 20 MB boost. Cable One provides its subscribers with quality service offerings at competitive rates. Cable One expends substantial capital and resources to ensure that customers enjoy the latest technology and the highest standards of customer service, and has made its customers and its communities its first priority.

Please refer to our supporting documentation and comments that establish that Cable One already operates in census tract(s) encompassing or included in Applicant's Proposed Funded Service Area. The uploaded document includes maps showing census tracts and homes passed for each the applicable systems, current advertisements for residential and commercial broadband offerings, and subscriber data by census tract.

Cable one's current broadband service offerings are as follows:

Residential:

Economy, Speed (Down/up) - 1.5 Mb/150 kbps, Service Rate - \$20.00

Standard , Speed (Down/up) - 5 Mb/500 kbps, Service Rate - \$43.00

Premium, Speed (Down/up) - 10 Mb/1 Mb, Service Rate - \$53.00

Commercial:

Economy, Speed (Down/up) - 5 Mb/1.0 Mb, Service Rate - \$69.65

Standard, Speed (Down/up) - 10.0 Mb/1.0 Mb, Service Rate - \$85.95

Premium, Speed (Down/up) - 12.0 Mb/1.5 Mb, Service Rate - \$99.95

Ultra, Speed (Down/up) - 15.0 Mb/2.0 Mb, Service Rate - \$199.95

Enterprise Plus, Speed (Down/up) - 20.0 Mb/2.5 Mb, Service Rate - \$299.95

Discounted bundles and promotional pricing are also available.

Submitter: Rhino Communications

Comment: Rhino Communications (RC) currently provides a wide array of broadband offerings within the proposed funded service area. RC has been offering broadband services in excess of the bandwidth requirement as set forth in the ARRA, NOFA and BIP/BTOP guidelines, all prior to the ARRA approval. RC's service area already provides for "sufficient access to broadband service to facilitate rural economic development", as well as allows for choice of service providers through competing with Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers, and RC's network allows for leasing of services through our own facilities. The proposed funded service area already provides for not only broadband service through RC, but several CLEC's, Cable companies, and numerous mobile broadband service providers offer several choices to the subscriber. RC's opinion of the proposed funded service area is that of unnecessary spending within areas where sufficient broadband offerings exist to meet current demands. Whereas the requested funding could be better utilized in other portions of the country to deploy, map, or support other broadband services in accordance with the ARRA, NOFA and BIP/BTOP programs. Through funding the proposed service area, excessive competition will be created for all, which may create a short term economic boost, but have severe long term ramifications which may force current stable and thriving service providers to close or consolidate business, leading to layoffs and resulting in another economic downturn.

Submitter: TV Cable of Grayson County

Comment: Grayson County Cable (GCC) currently provides a wide array of broadband offerings within the proposed funded service area. GCC has been offering broadband services in excess of the 3 MB bandwidth requirement as set forth in the ARRA, NOFA and BIP/BTOP guidelines, all prior to the ARRA approval. GCC's service area already provides for "sufficient access to broadband service to facilitate rural economic development", as well as allows for choice of service providers through competing with

Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers, and allows for leasing of services through our own facilities. The proposed funded service area already provides for not only broadband service through GCC, but several ILEC's, Wireless companies, and numerous mobile broadband service providers offer several choices to the subscriber. GCC's opinion of the proposed funded service area is that of unnecessary spending within areas where sufficient broadband offerings exist to meet current demands. Whereas the requested funding could be better utilized in other portions of the country to deploy, map, or support other broadband services in accordance with the ARRA, NOFA and BIP/BTOP programs. Through funding the proposed service area, excessive competition will be created for all, which may create a short term economic boost, but have severe long term ramifications which may force current stable and thriving service providers to close or consolidate business, leading to layoffs and resulting in another economic downturn.