Broadband USA Applications Database

Applicant Name: N-1 Communications, LLC

Project Title: Peoria Area WiMAX Broadband Project

Project Type: Last Mile Non-Remote

_____Executive Summary_____

Executive Summary Buzz Broadband plans to build a Wireless Broadband network using 2.5 Ghz WiMAX technology to more than 2,200 square miles of under-served and lightly served areas of Illinois. The project area is inside a circle with a 35 mile radius from a fixed point slightly south of Peoria, IL. Buzz Broadband recently acquired the lease to a 24 MHz wide band of spectrum in this area and is very excited to launch service in Illinois. The company embarked on its business plan beginning in October of 2008, well before there was any notion of an economic stimulus program. The company's plan from day one was to focus on under and unserved markets within 500 miles of St. Louis, where the company has its corporate headquarters. The tier two, three, four and five markets surrounding Peoria were firmly on the company's radar from day one and the company's investors backed the acquisition of spectrum in the Peoria area. Buzz management believes the key to growing rural America starts with broadband. Broadband serves consumers and attracts business. Business brings jobs and more consumers. Consumers spend money and bring more businesses. The result of affordable broadband is a thriving and sustainable business climate. Buzz Broadband is managed by a group of executives with deep experience in building and operating profitable wireless and wire-line telecommunications networks. We will use that experience to build a network capable of carrying wire-line quality voice and high speed data to serve both business and residential customers. In addition we expect to bring a suite of services to customers to enhance their on line experience including firewall, managed services and the training needed for customers to adopt and use their broadband service for years to come. Bottom line: Buzz Broadband intends to build a sustainable WiMAX broadband business in and around Peoria that will create up to 14 well paying jobs throughout the service territory. We are excited about the potential for Federal and State Grant money because these dollars will help us expand our network even further. We want to be a partner and long term promoter of Broadband throughout Peoria and the other areas where we are able to obtain spectrum. Opportunity the Proposed Network Addresses: Through its research in and around the Peoria, IL area, Buzz Broadband has found many under-served and unserved communities and areas. Buzz plans to deliver a wireless voice and data network to a 2,200 plus square mile area. Within this area the company's product will be available both as a fixed business or home broadband product and will be highly nomadic in that consumers and businesses will be able to move devices within the coverage area and still receive high quality service. This will be a unique service within the coverage area and will help the served communities leapfrog services available even in downtown Peoria. General Description of Service Area: Buzz Broadband intends to serve a large area within a circle defined from a point 3 miles north of Peoria, IL. The circle extends 35 miles from around this point. Buzz's business plan is to serve the greatest area possible within its assigned territory. The

company will not, however, initially enter into the areas designated as urban by the Rural Utilities Service. Buzz had already mapped the territory and picked its likely service areas even before the introduction of the final map on July 31. The company's service target areas are nearly 100% rural as defined by this map. Number of Households and Business Served, Cost and Subscribers: Through its methodology described within this document, Buzz intends to build a network that covers 11,000 under-served or unserved households and additional households that will receive enhanced broadband capabilities. For business, the network covers 1,300 estimated to be in the under-served area. The company is seeking federal funding for the under-served or unserved households and businesses, and has private equity commitments for the 20% match needed to build in the under-served areas. (Data above is based on the last census data currently available.) The company estimates the total cost of network build out for the unserved and under-served area to be $5,387,015, yielding a total cost of $489 per household and business passed. Based on its projections, the company will serve at the end of year two 2,836 residential and 395 businesses in the unserved and under-served areas. Detailed cost to build out are included in Attachment G showing network design and cost to build the network. We believe the build out design and cost are the most efficient possible given the technology and terrain of the service area. Number of Community and Anchor Institutions, Public Safety and Critical Community Organizations: Based on the company's examination of available data, the network will pass 15 hospitals and 157 schools. As of the date of this filing we do not have an estimate of Public Safety or Critical Community Organizations passed, however we believe that with our broad coverage area we will reach all of these types of institutions in our service area. Proposed Services & Type of System: The company intends to build a 2.5 GHz WiMAX network capable of delivering broadband speeds of up to 5 Mbps down and 2 Mbps per second up throughout the target area to business and residential subscribers. The network will be engineered from day one to provide Quality of Service (QOS) voice services to the target area. In addition the company intends to launch Managed Services including managed e-mail, firewall, network monitoring services and more to the covered businesses and households. All services will be priced comparably with competitive offerings from major companies in urban environments. Approach to Addressing Non Discrimination and Interconnection: The network created through the ARRA funds will be open for use by a variety of broadband connectivity providers as well as broadband application providers. The Buzz network is an all IP wireless network built upon standard industry practices using technology specifications that create a platform for multi-carrier access. The network has three key attributes that make it capable of providing open access. The first is the selection of IP as the transport protocol with Multi-Protocol Label Switching (MPLS) used to provide Quality of Service (QoS) which is needed by application providers. The last two revolve around the selection of the Worldwide Interoperability for Microwave Access (WiMAX) standard for identity management and the RF interface standards. The company commits to all of the non-discrimination, interconnection and network openness obligations described in the NOFA. Without limiting the foregoing, Applicant hereby commits to: (i) adhere to the principles contained in the FCC’s Internet Policy Statement; (ii) not favor any lawful Internet applications and content over others; (iii) display any network management policies in a prominent location on its web page and provide notice to customers of changes in these policies; (iv) connect to the public Internet directly or indirectly, such that this proposal is not an entirely closed private network; and (v) offer interconnection, where technically feasible without exceeding current or reasonably anticipated capacity limitations, on reasonable rates and terms to be negotiated with

requesting parties. All of the foregoing commitments are subject to (a) the needs of law enforcement; and (b) reasonable network management. Buzz anxiously awaits the federal funding outcome and is eager to begin serving customers.