

Broadband USA Applications Database

Applicant Name: N-1 Communications, LLC

Project Title: Wildwood, MO WiMAX Broadband Project

Project Type: Last Mile

Executive Summary

Executive Summary Buzz Broadband plans to build a Wireless Broadband network using 900 Mhz technology to more than 36 square miles of unserved Missouri. The project area is a small town 12 miles west of St. Louis in the city of Wildwood, MO. Buzz Broadband has partnered very closely with the city and is very excited to bring broadband to this part of Missouri. 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 markets like Wildwood were firmly on the company's radar from day one. 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 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 broadband business in and around Wildwood that will create up to 5 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 Wildwood and the other areas. 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. Opportunity the Proposed Network Addresses: Through its research in and around the Wildwood, MO 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 36 plus square mile area. Within this area the company's product will be available as a fixed business or home broadband product. General Description of Service Area: Buzz Broadband intends to serve only the unserved portion of Wildwood. The area is extremely hilly and presents an enormous technical challenge for any provider. The homes in the area occupy large wooded lots located on both sides of several ridge lines. Number of Households and Business Served, Cost and Subscribers: Through its methodology described within this document, Buzz intends to build a network that covers nearly 3,000 under-served or unserved households. For business, the network covers 21 estimated to be in the under-served area. The company is seeking federal funding for the unserved households and businesses, and has a commitment from the City of Wildwood to fund 20% of the cost of the deployed network. In addition the company has private equity

commitments for another 20% match needed to fund operating losses for the area. (Data above is based on the last census data currently available. The city's population numbers are significantly higher than those from the census.) The company estimates the total cost of network build out for the unserved and under-served area to be \$2,054,535, yielding a total cost of \$684 per household and business passed. Based on its projections, the company will serve at the end of year two 1,398 residential and zero businesses in the unserved area. 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 no hospitals and two schools. Our estimate of Public Safety or Critical Community Organizations passed is two Fire/EMT houses, however we believe that with our 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 900 MHz network capable of delivering broadband speeds of up to 3 Mbps down and 1 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) 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 key attributes that make it capable of providing open access. One 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 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.