Broadband USA Applications Database

**Applicant Name:** Last Mile, Inc.

_______________________Public Notice Submissions_______________________

-----**Service Area:** Memorial Hospital - Towanda

**Submitter:** Comcast Cable

**Comment:** Attached is a summary of the Comcast Cable homes passed, subscriber and advertising information related to the service areas encompassed by this application.

-----**Service Area:** Indiana Regional Medical Center

**Submitter:** Comcast Cable

**Comment:** Attached is a summary of the Comcast Cable homes passed, subscriber and advertising information related to the service areas encompassed by this application.

-----**Service Area:** Dubois-Punxutawaney Area

**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: Comcast Cable

Comment: Attached is a summary of the Comcast Cable homes passed, subscriber and advertising information related to the service areas encompassed by this application.

-----Service Area: Ridgeway County

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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Submitter: Comcast Cable

Comment: Attached is a summary of the Comcast Cable homes passed, subscriber and advertising information related to the service areas encompassed by this application.
-----Service Area:  Nason Hospital

Submitter:  CenturyLink

Comment:  CenturyLink is submitting data that shows the application’s proposed service area is not underserved or unserved, under program guidelines. Accordingly, the application must be denied as ineligible. With limited funding and a large pool of applications, program grants and loans must be directed only to areas that are truly underserved or unserved, as stipulated in the program guidelines.

CenturyLink can certify that its affiliates currently offer broadband service in some or all of the applicant’s proposed service areas. We attach a representative sample of areas where the application overlaps our existing broadband deployment. This data is not exhaustive; the application may include other areas also currently served with broadband by CenturyLink or other providers. We will provide additional information on request if that will further assist the agency’s review.

CenturyLink also provides data showing broadband availability in local telephone exchanges within the proposed service areas. This includes areas served by CenturyLink and/or other broadband providers. This data further show the applicant would duplicate and overlap existing broadband services in the proposed service areas.

-----Service Area:  Clarion Hospital

Submitter:  Comcast Cable

Comment:  Attached is a summary of the Comcast Cable homes passed, subscriber and advertising information related to the service areas encompassed by this application.

-----Service Area:  Forest County
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: Fulton County Medical Center

Submitter: CenturyLink

Comment: CenturyLink is submitting data that shows the application’s proposed service area is not underserved or unserved, under program guidelines. Accordingly, the application must be denied as ineligible. With limited funding and a large pool of applications, program grants and loans must be directed only to areas that are truly underserved or unserved, as stipulated in the program guidelines.

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CenturyLink also provides data showing broadband availability in local telephone exchanges within the proposed service areas. This includes areas served by CenturyLink and/or other broadband providers. This data further show the applicant would duplicate and overlap existing broadband services in the proposed service areas.
Submitter: Comcast Cable

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----Service Area:  Tyrone Hospital

Submitter: Comcast Cable

Comment: Attached is a summary of the Comcast Cable homes passed, subscriber and advertising information related to the service areas encompassed by this application.

----Service Area:  JC Blair Memorial Hospital

Submitter: Comcast Cable

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----Service Area:  Windber Medical Center

Submitter: Comcast Cable

Comment: Attached is a summary of the Comcast Cable homes passed, subscriber and advertising information related to the service areas encompassed by this application.
-----Service Area: Venango County Span

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: Armstrong Utilities Inc.

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Submitter: Comcast Cable

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-----Service Area: Titusville-Pleasantville Area

Submitter: Armstrong Utilities Inc.
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-----Service Area: Armstrong County Memorial Hospital

Submitter: Windstream

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