Comment: BPS Networks (BPS) is an incumbent broadband provider in the Steele, MO Proposed Service Area covered by Telecommunications Mgmt LLC’s broadband stimulus application. BPS is an affiliate of BPS Telephone, the incumbent local exchange carrier (ILEC) serving this area.

The Applicant’s Proposed Service Area consists primarily of the town of Steele, MO. BPS provides broadband service (as defined by the NOFA as downstream speeds of 768 kbs or higher) to more than 40% of potential subscribers and offers service to 100% of potential subscribers in the Proposed Service Area. Additionally, the Proposed Service Area is served by at least two other broadband service providers.

BPS has consistently and effectively advertised the availability of broadband Internet access at speeds of 3 Mbs and higher throughout its service area (advertisements attached). Color flyers promoting broadband are inserted into every monthly bill mailed to all BPS customers. The attached flyer promotes the availability of 6 Mbs broadband access. BPS has also advertised in the local media in an effort to reach out to new customers. The attached advertisement ran most recently in The Steele Enterprise four times during the month of July 2009 – on 07/09, 07/16, 07/23 and 07/30.

BPS asserts that the Proposed Service Area under this pending application is well-served for broadband Internet access, and that the referenced application does not meet the conditions set forth in the NOFA.