Broadband USA Applications Database

Applicant Name:  North Coast Wireless Communications

_______________________Public Notice Submissions_______________________

-----Service Area:  Castalia Ohio

Submitter:  Erie County Cablevision, Inc.

Comment:  This is to formally object to the application of North Coast Wireless Communications for Last-Mile Non-Remote Area BIP/BTOP funds in the Castalia, OH area. This is an attempt to obtain federal funds to infringe on an area already served, and served well, by Buckeye CableSystem ("Buckeye"), a private business. Buckeye CableSystem is a registered trademark used by Erie County Cablevision, Inc., for marketing purposes.

The application states that the area is unserved/underserved. Buckeye's service area drawn on the accompanying map shows otherwise. Buckeye supplies broadband service up to 20 Mb downstream within that area. Buckeye has provided broadband service in this area since the mid- to late-1990s.

Buckeye serves the area with 274.896 miles of aerial plant and 110.026 miles of underground plant, both fiber optic and coaxial cable.

Buckeye’s hybrid fiber/coax plant is available to 31,840 homes within that area. Of those, 20,107 customers subscribe to one or more of Buckeye’s services; 12,369 of whom, or 61.5 per cent, take the broadband Internet service, including the 20 Mb download speed.

While not a mathematically exact proportion, it appears that the North Coast proposed service circle is about one fourth over Lake Erie where it is doubtful the firm would find many, if any, customers. Of the three-fourths of the circle which covers land where potential subscribers reside, it appears that Buckeye’s service area encompasses about half that – certainly the greatest population areas.
Since Buckeye provides high-speed broadband to about half the area North Coast wants to serve, and more than 60 per cent of the customers in that area avail themselves of that service, the area can hardly be described as unserved or underserved, as far as broadband is concerned.

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 subscribeship of over 40% of the households in these census blocks or (2) the combined broadband subscribeship 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.”