Broadband USA Applications Database

**Applicant Name:** Howard University

_______________________Public Notice Submissions_______________________

-----Service Area: Kent

**Submitter:** Atlantic Broadband

**Comment:** The application of Howard University attempts to characterize as ‘unserved’ and ‘underserved’ numerous communities where Atlantic Broadband provides high speed data to businesses and residences. These include: Kent County, Chestertown, Betterton, Millington, Rock Hall, Kennedyville, Still Pond, Worton and Lynch. High speed broadband is available to the residents and businesses in each of these communities, at speeds far in excess of the minimum threshold of 768/200 kpbs. Speeds well in excess of 3mpbs are offered and advertised. (Documentation attached). The subscription rate for Atlantic Broadband’s high speed Internet service averages over 60%.

-----Service Area: Cecil

**Submitter:** Armstrong Cable Services

**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 its high speed broadband exceeds 40%, of its 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.

**Submitter:** Atlantic Broadband
Comment: The application of Howard University attempts to characterize as ‘unserved’ and ‘underserved’ numerous communities where Atlantic Broadband provides high speed data to businesses and residences. These include: Cecil County, Perryville, Port Deposit, Perry Point, Elkton and the Town of Chesapeake City. High speed broadband is available to the residents and businesses in each of these communities, at speeds far in excess of the minimum threshold of 768/200 kpbs. Speeds well in excess of 3mpbs are offered and advertised. (Documentation attached). The subscription rate for Atlantic Broadband’s high speed Internet service averages over 53%.

-----Service Area: Allegany

Submitter: Atlantic Broadband

Comment: The application of Howard University attempts to characterize as ‘unserved’ and ‘underserved’ communities in western Maryland where Atlantic Broadband provides high speed data to businesses and residences. High speed broadband is available to well over 50% of the residents and businesses in the city of Cumberland and Allegany County, at speeds far in excess of the minimum threshold of 768/200 kpbs. Speeds well in excess of 3mpbs are offered and advertised. (Documentation attached). The subscription rate for Atlantic Broadband’s high speed Internet service is greater than 50% in these communities.

-----Service Area: Queen Anne's

Submitter: Atlantic Broadband

Comment: The application of Howard University attempts to characterize as ‘unserved’ and ‘underserved’ numerous communities where Atlantic Broadband provides high speed data to businesses and residences. These are communities where in fact Atlantic Broadband, since acquiring cable systems there, has invested tens of millions of private capital building a high speed broadband network in communities that had no broadband access prior to 2004. These include: Church Hill, Kent Island, Kent
Narrows, Centerville, Barclay, Crumpton, Grasonville, Millington, Stevensville, Sudlersville, Templeville, Queenstown, and unincorporated Queen Anne’s County. High speed broadband is available to well over 50% of the residents and businesses in each of these communities, at speeds far in excess of the minimum threshold of 768/200 kpbs. Speeds well in excess of 3mpbs are offered and advertised. (Documentation attached). The subscription rate for Atlantic Broadband’s high speed Internet service averages over 80%.

-----Service Area: Garrett

Submitter: Suddenlink Communications

Comment: This response conclusively demonstrates that Suddenlink and its competitors already offer broadband service within the mapped area of the applicant’s proposed funded service area and that this mapped area is not unserved. Additional information is provided in the uploaded document, including (1) sample marketing material; (2) a guide on how to read the data we entered in the “Existing Broadband Subscribers” section of this response; (3) a summary of the vendor and methodology used for estimating competitive-service subscribers in the mapped area; (4) Suddenlink contact information, should one or more federal agencies have questions or require additional information; and (5) a summary of concerns with the response process and the limitations that process has placed on our ability to provide NTIA/RUS with relevant, timely data.

-----Service Area: Talbot

Submitter: Atlantic Broadband

Comment: The application of Howard University attempts to characterize as ‘unserved’ and ‘underserved’ numerous communities where Atlantic Broadband provides high speed data to businesses and residences. These are communities where in fact Atlantic Broadband, since acquiring cable systems there, has invested tens of millions of private capital building a high speed broadband network in communities that had no broadband access prior to 2004. These include: St. Michael’s, Trappe, Oxford, and unincorporated Talbot County (including the areas listed by the applicant as Bay Hundred and
High speed broadband is available to well over 50% of the residents and businesses in each of these communities, at speeds far in excess of the minimum threshold of 768/200 kpbs. Speeds well in excess of 3mpbs are offered and advertised. (Documentation attached). The subscription rate for Atlantic Broadband’s high speed Internet service averages over 60% in these communities.

-----Service Area: Washington

Submitter: Antietam Cable Television, Inc

Comment: Antietam Cable Television, Inc. (“Antietam Cable”), a privately owned corporation, provides cable television and broadband service to residents and businesses in Washington County, Maryland. Antietam Cable currently offers broadband service to more than 45,000 households spanning 340 square miles of Washington County, Maryland.* As an existing broadband service provider, Antietam Cable objects to the representations made by Howard University regarding the proposed service areas in its application for broadband stimulus funding. In its application, Howard University proposes to offer broadband service to all of Washington County, MD, and claims six areas are unserved or underserved. As described in detail below, however, these claims are inaccurate as Howard University’s proposed service areas in Washington County are neither unserved nor underserved.