

## Broadband USA Applications Database

**Applicant Name:** Cinergy MetroNet, Inc.

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### Public Notice Submissions

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-----**Service Area:** Columbia City

**Submitter:** CenturyLink

**Comment:** The proposed service areas are not wholly underserved or unserved.

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. Attached is a state map that is a representative sample of areas where the application overlaps our existing broadband deployment. CenturyLink also provides data showing broadband availability in our local telephone exchanges within the proposed service areas. We will provide additional information on request if that will further assist the agency's review.

This data is not exhaustive; the application may include other areas also currently served with broadband by other providers, which should be considered in the assessment of the application. Our data combined with that of other broadband providers would likely show further duplication and overlap of broadband services in the proposed service areas.

CenturyLink has committed to upgrade and extend broadband.

CenturyLink has an extensive broadband footprint today, and has committed to extend that service even further. As part of its merger commitments to the Federal Communications Commission, CenturyLink committed to offer retail broadband Internet access service to 100% of its broadband eligible access

lines by July 1, 2012. Consequently, virtually no areas served by CenturyTel or Embarq local operating companies, in any state, will be underserved or unserved at the end of three years.

CenturyLink also agreed to meet targets for minimum download speeds. CenturyLink will ensure availability of retail broadband Internet access service with a download speed of 1.5 Mbps to 87% of the broadband eligible access lines by July 1, 2011. It will ensure availability with a download speed of 3 Mbps to 75% of broadband eligible access lines by July 1, 2010, to 78% of broadband eligible lines by July 1, 2011, and to 80% of broadband eligible lines within 3 years of the close date. Nationwide, our average tele-density is 23 customers per square mile. This commitment ensures availability of broadband even to very rural consumers.

The agency should consider the importance of this commitment, as CenturyLink's continuing investment inevitably will make applications that overlap CenturyLink service areas less viable. CenturyLink has proven, industry-leading experience in deploying broadband networks and services using both wireline and wireless technology, and a strong commitment and focus on rural areas. Today, it serves over 7 million access lines and 2.1 million broadband customers in 33 states.

-----**Service Area:** Plymouth

**Submitter:** CenturyLink

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-----**Service Area:** jasper

**Submitter:** Perry-Spencer Rural Telephone Coop, Inc. d/b/a PSC

**Comment:** The application submitted by Cinergy MetroNet, Inc contains inaccurate and incomplete information for the proposed funded service area. Perry-Spencer Communications, Inc. DBA PSC (PSC) demonstrates that it provides broadband wireless access services in both the Huntingburg and Jasper areas of 3 Mbps or greater via Fiber to the Premises or broadband wireless access technologies. PSC is currently migrating customers from the 384 Kbps speed to 3 Mbps for the same rate of \$29.95 per month. The upgrade is made possible by an upgrade to a new Wi-Max Network. As such, this area is "SERVED" based on the definitions as established in the Notice of Funds Availability (NOFA). In this public notice response PSC is providing; 1) a map of the overlapping area where PSC provides broadband services, 2) PSC's DSL high speed Internet advertising 3) the number of residential households and business establishments capable of receiving broadband services from PSC within our service area, 4) the number of residential households and business establishments subscribing to our broadband, 5) the advertised download and upload speeds and service rates, and 6) comments addressing the existing services offered within the proposed funded service area.

**Submitter:** Insight Communications

**Comment:** Based on the requirements for broadband stimulus funding outlined in the Federal Notice of Funds Availability, released jointly by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Department of Commerce on July 9, 2009 in the Federal Register, the application filed by Cinergy MetroNet, Inc. proposing to serve portions of Dubois County, Indiana, must be underserved by broadband. In the proposed service area containing the community of Jasper, Indiana, greater than 50 percent of households have access to facilities-based, terrestrial broadband service, households in the proposed service area have access to broadband speeds of 20 Mbps downstream provided by Insight Communications, and greater than 40 percent of households in the proposed service area have subscribed to broadband provided by Insight Communications. Because this proposed service area is, in fact, neither unserved nor underserved by broadband, it is not eligible for funding under the July 9, 2009 NOFA.

-----**Service Area:** Huntingburg

**Submitter:** Perry-Spencer Rural Telephone Coop, Inc. d/b/a PSC

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**Comment:** Based on the requirements for broadband stimulus funding outlined in the Federal Notice of Funds Availability, released jointly by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Department of Commerce on July 9, 2009 in the Federal Register, the application filed by Cinergy Metronet, proposing to serve portions of Dubois County, Indiana, must be underserved by broadband. In the proposed service area containing the community of Huntingsburg, Indiana, greater than 50 percent of households have access to facilities-based, terrestrial broadband service, households in the proposed service area have access to broadband speeds of 20 Mbps downstream provided by Insight Communications, and greater than 40 percent of households in the proposed service area have subscribed to broadband provided by Insight Communications and other broadband service providers. Because this proposed service area is, in fact, neither unserved nor underserved by broadband, it is not eligible for funding under the July 9, 2009 NOFA.

-----**Service Area:** Brazil

**Submitter:** Avenue Broadband Communications, Inc.

**Comment:** Avenue started providing high speed internet services to 100% of the Service Area earlier this year. The take rates have been very strong. Verizon also provides DSL service in the Service Area with advertised speeds up to 3 Mgbps. The penetration levels between Avenue and Verizon exceed 40% of homes passed.

-----**Service Area:** Washington

**Submitter:** DigitalBridge Communications Corp.

**Comment:** DigitalBridge Communications (“DBC”) currently offers true 4G, WiMAX broadband service in the applicant’s PFSA, serving an active base of residential and business subscribers in the PFSA. Other companies also serve the PFSA -DBC actively competes with cable (Avenue) and DSL (AT&T) broadband providers in the PFSA. DBC has 100% overlap of its coverage with the PFSA based on households served.

**Submitter:** Avenue Broadband Communications, Inc.

**Comment:** Avenue provides 3 Mbps and 10 Mbps high speed internet service to 100% of this Service Area. At&t also provides DSL service in the Service Area with advertised speeds up to 3 Mgbps. The penetration levels between Avenue and At&t exceed 40% of homes passed.

**Submitter:** International Broadband Electric Communications

**Comment:** IBEC is providing High Speed Internet services in this area under an existing RUS Rural Broadband Loan.

-----**Service Area:** Warsaw

**Submitter:** CenturyLink

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and wireless technology, and a strong commitment and focus on rural areas. Today, it serves over 7 million access lines and 2.1 million broadband customers in 33 states.

**Submitter:** Mediacom Communications Corporation

**Comment:** A large number of households in applicant's proposed service area are currently served by existing broadband providers like Mediacom and Comcast. Broadband speeds well in excess of the minimum broadband speeds set forth in the NOFA are currently available within the applicant's proposed service area. For its part, Mediacom advertises and provides broadband services within the proposed service area at speeds up to 20 Mbps.

-----**Service Area:** Franklin

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