

Broadband USA Applications Database

Applicant Name: Level 3 EON, LLC

Public Notice Submissions

-----**Service Area:** Newton

Submitter: The Tri-County Telephone Association, Inc.

Comment: The Tri-County Telephone Association, Inc. (TCT) has been providing high-quality communications services to rural Kansas for over 46 years. During this time, there has been much technological advancement, providing new services. TCT is committed to providing our customers with advanced, reliable communications service, regardless of where they live and work.

In 2001, TCT proved this commitment by making substantial investment in upgrading its core facilities including digital switches and a fiber fed network. This cutting-edge technology allowed TCT to offer advanced communication services, including broadband access to 100% of its service areas. TCT, in looking toward the future, has embarked on a Fiber-To-The-Home (FTTH) project that, by the time it is complete in 2013, will connect every home and business in its service areas to fiber-speed bandwidth.

TCT is a local company that anchors the communities it serves. It provides much-needed jobs, 24-7 customer service and local offices. TCT provides necessary broadband services to community anchor institutions including schools, libraries, local government offices and public safety agencies. It serves from a local perspective because TCT's owners, who are also its customers, have a personal stake in the communities where they work and live.

Recently, TCT committed to further serve our customers by creating the TCT Community Development Initiative. This initiative supports infrastructures to attract new residents and businesses to TCT communities. TCT, one of the largest employers in the area, provides assistance in business development for both new and existing businesses. TCT will also acts as a liaison between local, state, and national economic development groups and contributes in local Community Development Groups.

Submitter: Moundridge Telephone Company

Comment: For the portion of this application that overlaps the Moundridge Telephone Company serving area, broadband of at least 768kbps downstream and 200kbps upstream is accessible to 100% of households and 100% of businesses. Additionally, Moundridge Telephone offers a 4Mbps downstream / 1 Mbps upstream service in this area. Lastly, Moundridge Telephone supplies broadband service to over 50% of the households in this area. Per the criteria defined for the stimulus program, this area is classified as served.

Submitter: AT&T

Comment: AT&T is providing data about its wireline and mobile broadband footprint to assist in determining whether the applicant's proposed service area, which may be part of a larger application and project, satisfies the unserved and underserved eligibility requirements.

Additional information regarding other broadband service providers' currently operating in the service area may be needed in order to make a reasonable analysis or a conclusive determination.

Submitter: TC Wireless

Comment: TC Wireless, Inc, along with its parent company The Tri-County Telephone Association, Inc., has been providing communications services to rural Kansas for over 46 years. TC Wireless was formed in 2004 specifically to provide wireless broadband services to communities that larger companies ignored. TC Wireless is a pioneer in providing high-quality services over the 700 Mhz wireless spectrum. It acquired its licenses at auction in 2002, taking a chance on the unproven spectrum. It began providing services in this band as soon as equipment was available. To meet the specific needs of the communities it serves, TC Wireless has expanded its offerings to include the 900 MHz and 2.4 MHz bands.

By utilizing an array of licensed and unlicensed spectrum, TC Wireless achieved a task five years ago that some still say today is not possible – bringing high speed Internet access to rural and remote areas. It did this, at considerable cost, because, as a local company, TC Wireless' owners, who are also its customers, have a personal stake in the communities where they work and live. As a result, TC Wireless is providing rural America with advanced, reliable communications service.

Submitter: KanOkla Networks

Comment: KanOkla Networks has been providing our customers the best in telecommunications/data technology for almost 60 years. We are the leader in our service areas for rolling out new and innovative services to our subscribers. We currently offer broadband service, at speeds up to 6 Mbps, to 100% of our current and potential customers. KanOkla is in the midst of installing Fiber To The Home (FTTH) to all of our exchange areas, bringing the capability of 100 Mbps to all homes and businesses throughout our areas. This project, with its wealth of bandwidth for our subscribers, will position our communities for the future.

Submitter: Home Communications, Inc.

Comment: For the portion of this application that overlaps the Home Communications, Inc. serving area, broadband of at least 768kbps downstream and 200kbps upstream is accessible to 100% of households and 100% of businesses. Additionally, Home Communications, Inc. offers a 3Mbps downstream and 5Mbps downstream service in this area. Lastly, Home Communications, Inc. supplies broadband service to over 40% of the households in this area. Per the criteria defined for the stimulus program, this area is classified as served.

Submitter: KeyOn Communications

Comment: KeyOn Communications currently provides access at speeds of at least 768kbps downstream and at least 200kbps upstream to more than 50% of the homes in the designated area.

-----**Service Area:** Spring Hill

Submitter: Time Warner Cable

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: AT&T

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-----**Service Area:** Lancaster

Submitter: AT&T

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Submitter: Allegiance Communications, LLC

Comment: Allegiance Communications (Allegiance) currently provides a wide array of broadband offerings within the proposed funded service area. Allegiance has offered broadband services in excess of the 3 MB bandwidth requirement as set forth in the ARRA, NOFA and BIP/BTOP guidelines, all prior to the ARRA approval. Allegiance's service area already provides for "sufficient access to broadband service to facilitate rural economic development", as well as allows for choice of service providers through competing with Local Exchange Carriers, and allows for leasing of services through our own facilities. Allegiance's opinion of the proposed funded service area is that of excess spending where funds could be better used in other portions of the country to deploy broadband service in accordance with the ARRA, NOFA and BIP/BTOP programs. Through funding the proposed service area, excessive competition will be created for all, which may create a short term economic boost, but have severe long term ramifications which may force service providers out of business.

-----**Service Area:** Elmdale

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Comment: TC Wireless, Inc, along with its parent company The Tri-County Telephone Association, Inc., has been providing communications services to rural Kansas for over 46 years. TC Wireless was formed in 2004 specifically to provide wireless broadband services to communities that larger companies ignored. TC Wireless is a pioneer in providing high-quality services over the 700 Mhz wireless spectrum. It acquired its licenses at auction in 2002, taking a chance on the unproven spectrum. It began providing services in this band as soon as equipment was available. To meet the specific needs of the communities it serves, TC Wireless has expanded its offerings to include the 900 MHz and 2.4 MHz bands.

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customers, have a personal stake in the communities where they work and live. As a result, TC Wireless is providing rural America with advanced, reliable communications service.

Submitter: Wheat State Telephone, Inc

Comment: Wheat State Telephone has been serving 6 rural communities in south central Kansas for almost 60 years. Some of our service areas are in the heart of sparsely populated cattle country, yet we are committed to delivering high speed broadband service to all of our customers. Wheat State Telephone was the first provider of broadband service in the area as early as July, 2000. Since then we have continually upgraded our network to bring higher speeds to more and more of our subscribers. Wheat State Telephone continues to be a leader in broadband services. Based on the NOFA definition of broadband these communities are neither unserved nor underserved.

Wheat State Telephone is a community based company, with just under 50% of its staff being residents of the communities we serve. Our employees are active in the communities, volunteering with numerous events and serving on various local boards or committees.

Submitter: KeyOn Communications

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