Broadband USA Applications Database

Applicant Name: SIMPLY BITS, L.L.C.

_______________________Public Notice Submissions_______________________

-----Service Area: RioRubacAmadoGV

Submitter: Cox Communications, Inc

Comment: Cox Communications, Inc. (Cox) is a broadband communications and entertainment company, providing advanced digital video, Internet, telephone and wireless services over its nationwide IP network. The third-largest U.S. cable TV company, Cox serves over 6.2 million residences and businesses.

Cox operates in hundreds of communities in 18 states and has invested over $16 billion in private capital in its network over the least ten years. Cox provides its customers in Arizona with 21st century infrastructure that provides advanced broadband, video and telephone services. More than 99.5 percent of the households in our service areas have access to Cox high-speed Internet, at some of the fastest broadband speeds available in the nation.

Cox supports the goals of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to extend broadband to parts of the country that are unserved or underserved. We appreciate the efforts of the Rural Utilities Service and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration in making sure that the limited amount of broadband stimulus funding available under the ARRA is targeted toward those consumers in greatest need, rather than to areas that already have access to broadband service.

To assist your agencies in ensuring that ARRA funds are directed to truly unserved and underserved areas, Cox is providing supplemental information that demonstrates, for the above-referenced application, the following: the location of Cox’s broadband infrastructure; broadband service levels provided; number of customers served; pricing for each service tier; and marketing materials which demonstrate service availability. Consistent with the statutory requirement to expend funds only for projects in eligible areas, we trust that your agencies will use this information -- along with information from other broadband providers -- to obtain a clear picture of service availability in the area covered by the application. We encourage the use of independent due diligence to determine the extent of other
broadband service offerings in the proposed funded service area covered by this submission, if other providers fail to submit information prior to the submission deadline.

We request that this data be treated as confidential and proprietary. Much of the information provided with this letter constitutes trade secrets or commercial information that is privileged and confidential and therefore exempt from public disclosure under 5 U.S.C. § 552(b)(4). Cox does not disclose this information to the public, and release of this information could cause competitive harm, by enabling other broadband providers to tailor their business strategies to unfairly compete with Cox.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this information. We trust that it will be helpful in your analysis, and will inform your final decision concerning the application.

Submitter: Hometown Broadband Arizona South, LLC

Comment: Hometown Broadband Arizona South, LLC

RUS Project Designation: Arizona 1107-A35

SUMMARY

Hometown Broadband Arizona South, LLC is a current RUS Broadband Borrower under that certain Loan and Security Agreement and Note dated January 11, 2008 between Hometown Broadband Arizona South, LLC (“HBAS”) and the United States of America acting through the Administrator of the Rural Utilities Service (“RUS”).

Our service territories were filed under our RUS loan application in accordance with RUS Bulletin 1738-1 and were subsequently approved by the RUS. The filed service territories and the households within each service territory enable the economic viability of our project and the RUS loan. Based on our original RUS loan application our defined service area serves both underserved and unserved households. HBAS has projected acquiring thousands of broadband subscribers during the life of the project.
Our RUS approved and planned broadband services exceed the minimum broadband transmission speeds (768 kbps down and 200 kbps up) set forth in the BTOP and BIA programs and we plan to advertise and provide optional speeds up to 6 mbps down and 2 mbps up.

The Applicants service area overlaps the HBAS service area as approved by the RUS. If the government were to approve the Applicant’s service area, Applicants right to utilize these significant portions of HBAS’s service area would impede the ability of HBAS to fully build out its service area. That impedance would result in decreased revenue for HBAS, thus interfering with HBAS’s ability to repay its RUS loan and to operate profitably.

Submitter: TransWorld Network, Corp.

Comment: TWN offers business and residential fixed wireless broadband access with download speeds ranging from 512Kbps to 7 Mbps. TWN offers service in the entire coverage area shown on this map

Submitter: Qwest

Comment: As authorized by the BIP and BTOP Notice of Funds Availability and the Public Notice associated with the publication of BIP and BTOP broadband infrastructure project funding applications found on the BroadbandUSA.gov website, Qwest responds with broadband service data to the application of Simply Bits Rio for funding for an area represented as “underserved” that is located, in whole or in part, in Qwest’s broadband service area.