Broadband USA Applications Database

Applicant Name: Plantation Cablevision, Inc.

Project Title: Plantation Cablevision Siloam/White Plains

Project Type: Last Mile Non-Remote

_________________________ Executive Summary _________________________

This relatively modest project (grant of $342,898 requested) will enable Applicant Plantation Cablevision to deliver high speed broadband service to two small, rural and currently underserved (and partially unserved) communities, Siloam and White Plains, Georgia, by replacing an antiquated microwave site (with which Plantation now provides analog cable television service, but cannot provide broadband or VoIP telephony service) with a hybrid fiber-coaxial (HFC) system. a) The project will bring 5 Mbps Internet access, as well as advanced digital video and VoIP service, to approximately 287 households and 10 businesses. The businesses that the project would serve range from timber companies to convenience stores. The project would also serve two community centers, a Fire Department, and a school. Currently, many of the households in these small communities have no broadband access, and the remainder have only 1.5 Mbps service from one provider. b) The proposed funded service areas are the towns of Siloam and White Plains, both of which are rural communities located in Greene County, Georgia. c) The proposed funded service areas comprise approximately 287 households and 10 businesses. d) The proposed funded service areas will pass two community centers, a Fire Department, and a school. Plantation would serve each of these institutions at no charge. e) The project will bring 5 Mbps Internet access, as well as advanced digital video and VoIP service, to households, businesses and institutional users. f) The project will comply fully with the program’s non-discrimination and network interconnection obligations. Specifically, the project will adhere to the principles set forth in the FCC’s Internet Policy Statement (FCC 05-151). Plantation will offer Internet access service over funded facilities which permits consumers to access the lawful Internet content of their choice; run applications and use services of their choice, subject to the needs of law enforcement; and connect their choice of legal devices that do not harm the network. This will contribute to the goal of providing consumers with competition among network providers, application and service providers, and content providers. These principles are subject to the needs of law enforcement, and reasonable network management practices. Plantation will also utilize various technical measures to provide acceptable service levels to all customers of Internet access service and to address malware, spam, denial of service attacks, illegal content and other harmful activity. Plantation will not favor any Internet applications and content over others, or provide preferential treatment to any user. Plantation will post a clear description of its network openness practices and network management policies in a prominent location on its web page, and provide notice to customers of any changes to these policies. Plantation will apply these techniques in a non-discriminatory manner. Finally, Plantation will offer physical interconnection to project facilities where technically feasible for the exchange of traffic and connection to the public Internet, thus ensuring openness of the network. Plantation will offer interconnection upon receipt of a bona fide
request from a requesting party, subject to mutual agreement on reasonable rates and terms to be negotiated in good faith. Accordingly, Plantation will operate the funded facilities in a manner that complies with the Recovery Act’s and the NoFA’s requirements for physical interconnection on a non-discriminatory basis for the exchange of traffic. g) The project will deploy a hybrid fiber-coaxial cable (HFC) route to end user premises. The antiquated microwave hop that Plantation has used to provide service to these areas to date is outdated and capable only of providing analog cable TV service. h) Plantation Cablevision has been in operation since 1988, delivering cable, high-speed (5 Mbps) broadband and VoIP telephony services to subscribers in Greene and Putnam Counties in rural Georgia. Its management has over 100 years of combined experience. i) The overall cost of the proposed broadband infrastructure is $342,898. j) Plantation projects that the system will serve over 400 subscribers in the proposed funded service area. Many of these subscribers already subscribe to Plantation’s analog cable service, but cannot currently receive broadband service. k) Plantation expects to create at least 5 new jobs in the construction of the project. Plantation also expects that many more jobs will be created and saved by the extension of high-speed broadband services to these heretofore underserved and economically depressed communities.