Applicant Name: North Texas Telephone Company

Project Title: North Texas Broadband Infrastructure

Project Type: Last Mile Non-Remote

Executive Summary

a.) Opportunity the proposed system seeks to address. North Texas Telephone Company (NTTC) proposes the upgrade of its DSL capability throughout its ILEC area. The current network cannot effectively accommodate DSL traffic. A simple upgrade of the DSL cards will provide broadband capability throughout the entire coverage area. The transmission equipment (wires and cables) are adequate to handle the traffic over the small geographic footprint of the coverage area.

b.) General description of the proposed funded service areas (location, number of communities, etc.). The proposed service area is the ILEC service territory of NTTC (Area). The ILEC territory includes eastern Clay County and the towns of Byers and Petrolia. Clay County is entirely rural and according to the 2000 Census its population was over 11,005 people. There were approximately 4,300 households. The area is approximately 25 miles east of Wichita Falls, TX.

c.) Number of households and businesses passed. Per the 2000 Census, there are approximately 4,300 households and 200 businesses located in the NTTC ILEC service area.

d.) Number of community anchor institutions, public safety entities and critical community organizations passes and/or involved with the project (e.g., health care, education, libraries, etc.). There are 2 Independent School Districts (ISDs), each containing a single elementary, middle and high school in the Area. The Area also contains 3 community centers and 3 fire departments and rescue squads.

e.) Proposed services and applications for the proposed funded service areas and users. The NTTC Proposal is focused on upgrading the data capability of its ILEC to true broadband speed across its entire coverage Area. This will result in providing access to the highest possible speeds to 100% of the service area. NTTC will aggressively promote this increased broadband service to its current customer base. NTTC proposes offering two tiers of service: an entry-level 768K service and a higher bandwidth 6.0 Megabytes of service.

f.) Approach to addressing the non-discrimination and interconnection obligations. NTTC will comply with all non-discrimination and interconnection requirements in the NOFA. As a regulated ILEC, NTTC currently has policies and procedures in effect to comply with NOFA-level non-discrimination and interconnection requirements, so pledging to do so for BIP or BTOP is consistent with its operating business philosophy. Among the principles adopted by the FCC in its August 5, 2005 Internet Policy Statement is the concept that “consumers are entitled to competition among network providers, application and service providers, and content providers.”

g.) Type of broadband system that will be deployed. The primary component of the system proposed is the upgrade of DSL card from Glite versions to ADSL2+ cards. This will enable NTTC to offer broadband service at speeds up to 10 Megabytes to customers.

h.) Qualifications of the applicant that demonstrate the ability to implement and operate a broadband infrastructure, and/or be a sustainable broadband services provider. NTTC is the existing carrier and the ILEC for the area. It is well-regarded and capable of...
providing this service. i.) Overall infrastructure cost of the broadband system. The total cost of the project is $42,705. j.) Overall expected subscriber projections for the project. NTTC has estimated that subscriber growth for broadband Internet service will occur on a straight-line basis over the next five years. Specifically, it is forecast that 20 new broadband customers will be added annually. k.) Number of jobs estimated to be created or saved as a result of this project. The present 21 employee work force at NTTC will be fully engaged in the timely completion of this broadband project.