

Boise 10350 W. Emerald Boise, ID 83704 (208)332-0188 Twin Falls 460 Main Ave S Twin Falls, ID 83301 (208)736-0188

http://www.tek-finity.com

I am writing to challenge the application by the City of Murtaugh, applicant ID APP-004237.

The application submitted states Tekfinity only provides a maximum service of 10Mbps. This is incorrect.

Currently my companies serve the school district with 500 Mbps symmetrical Internet Access, and we also offer the community broadband services up to 25M.

As stated in the City's application, and not disputed by Whitecloud, Tekfinity has 100% coverage of the City of Murtaugh. The application states that Tekfinity only offers a 10Mbps plan, this is not accurate. Tekfinity offers many plans, and our customers choose what is right for them. We do have a plan that meets the 25 Mbps / 3 Mbps requirements.

The application does not meet the criteria of 50% of households are currently in an unserved area and 50% of households is in an underserved area.

The approval of the application from the City of Murtaugh, partnering with Whitecloud, will present yet another wireless carrier in the area utilizing the same or similar technology and offering speeds that are already currently available in the area. There are currently 3 providers that already serve this area with wireless technology.

Here are screenshots of bandwidth tests performed to clients in the area.

Broadbandnow speedtest will not report these speeds as our end users are not actually subscribed to these packages. These tests depict speeds available.

Below are 5 customers with current services, and the speeds they can receive.

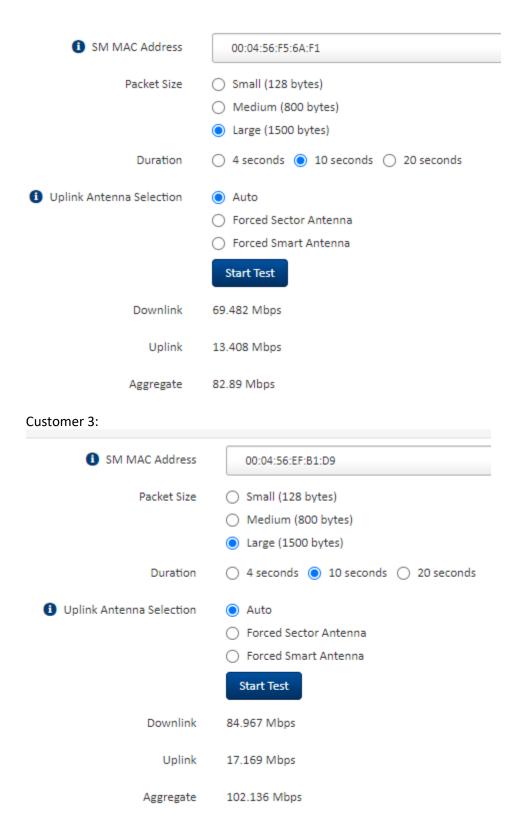
## Customer 1: SM MAC Address 00:04:56:F0:2B:B1 Packet Size Small (128 bytes) Medium (800 bytes) Large (1500 bytes) ○ 4 seconds ○ 10 seconds ○ 20 seconds Duration Uplink Antenna Selection Auto O Forced Sector Antenna Forced Smart Antenna Start Test Downlink 78.348 Mbps Uplink 16.132 Mbps Aggregate 94.48 Mbps SM MAC Address 00:04:56:F0:2B:B1 Packet Size O Small (128 bytes) Cus Medium (800 bytes) Large (1500 bytes) Duration ○ 4 seconds ○ 10 seconds ○ 20 seconds Uplink Antenna Selection Auto Forced Sector Antenna Forced Smart Antenna Start Test Downlink 78.348 Mbps

Uplink

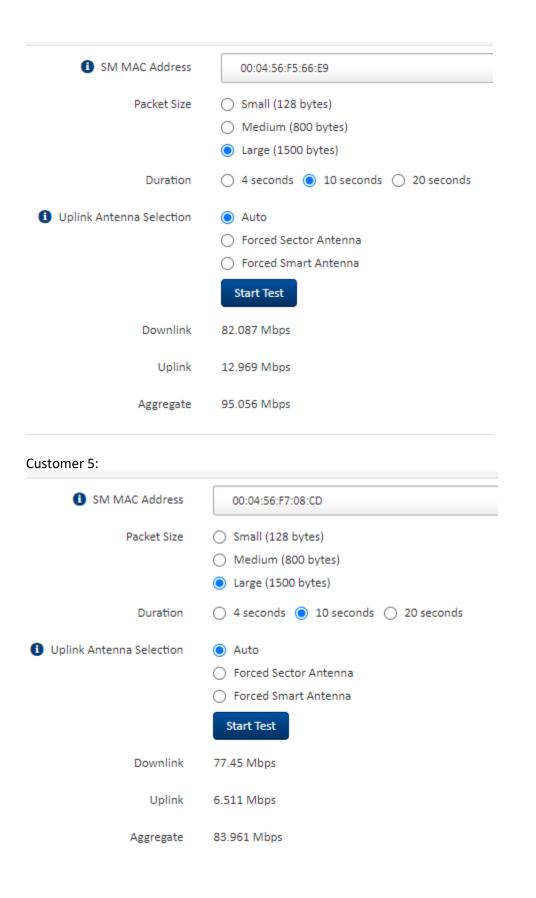
Aggregate

16.132 Mbps

94.48 Mbps



#### Customer 4:





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I am writing to challenge the application by the Gooding county, applicant ID APP-004291.

Currently my companies serve the charter school in town with 250 Mbps symmetrical Internet Access, and we also offer the community broadband services up to 25M in town and an 8 miles radius around the town.

The application provided by the county does not state we currently have services in the area, which is incorrect. We do provide services and have customers in the area.

The application does not meet the criteria of 50% of households are currently in an unserved area and 50% of households is in an underserved area.

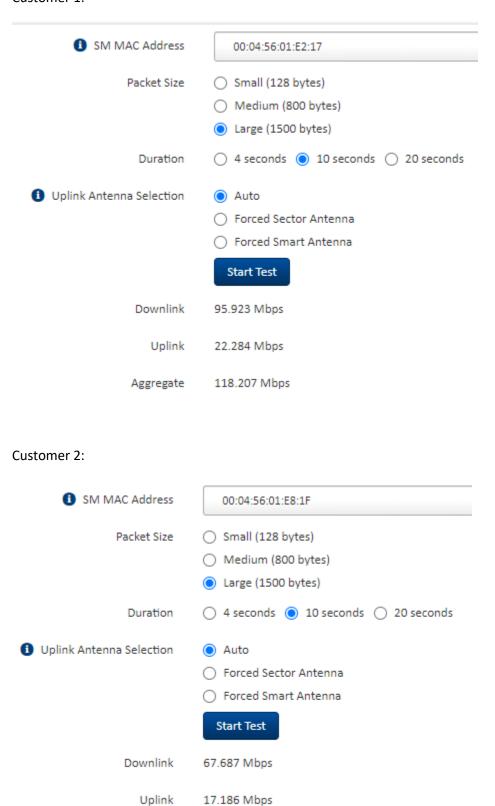
The approval of the application from the County, partnering with Whitecloud, will present yet another wireless carrier in the area utilizing the same or similar technology and offering speeds that are already currently available in the area. There are currently more than 5 providers that already serve this community with wireless technology and wired technologies.

Here are screenshots of bandwidth tests performed to clients in the area.

Broadbandnow speedtest will not report these speeds as our end users are not actually subscribed to these packages. These tests depict speeds available.

Below are 5 customers with current services, and the speeds they can receive.

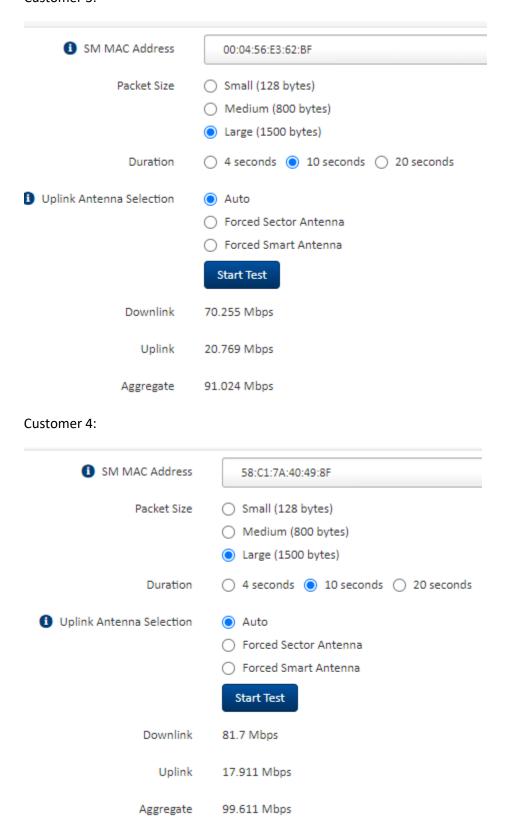
#### Customer 1:



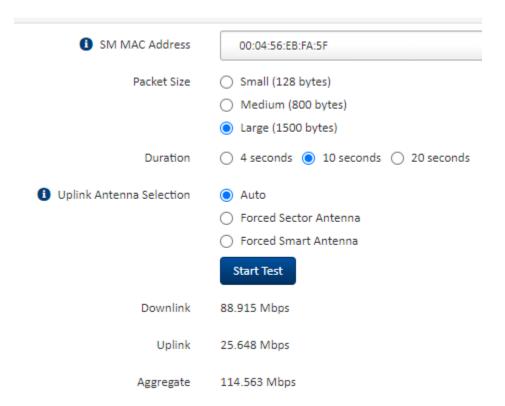
Aggregate

84.873 Mbps

#### Customer 3:



## Customer 5:





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I am writing to challenge the application by the City of Melba, applicant ID APP-004295.

Currently my companies serve the Melba school in town with 450 Mbps symmetrical Internet Access, and we also offer the community broadband services up to 25M in town and an 8 miles radius around the town.

The application provided by the city does not state we currently have services in the area, which is incorrect. We do provide services and have customers in the area.

The application does not meet the criteria of 50% of households are currently in an unserved area and 50% of households is in an underserved area.

The approval of the application from the City, partnering with Sparklight, will present yet another wireless carrier in the area utilizing the same or similar technology and offering speeds that are already currently available in the area. There are currently more than 3 wireless providers that already serve this community.

Here are screenshots of bandwidth tests performed to clients in the area.

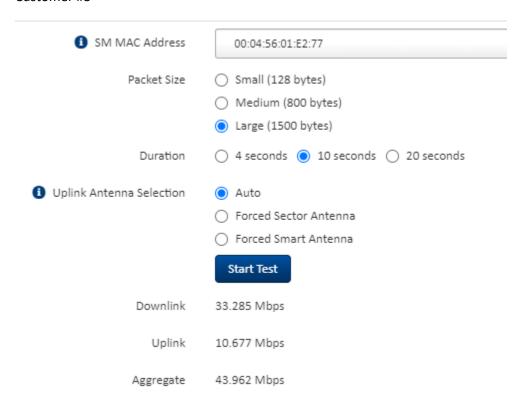
Broadbandnow speedtest will not report these speeds as our end users are not actually subscribed to these packages. These tests depict speeds available.

Below are 5 customers with current services, and the speeds they can receive.

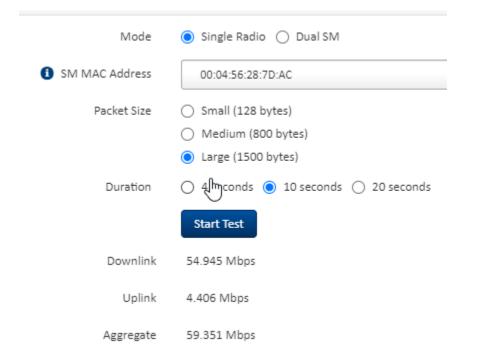
## Customer #1

1 SM MAC Address	00:04:56:FE:79:F7
Packet Size	Small (128 bytes)
	Medium (800 bytes)
	Large (1500 bytes)
Duration	○ 4 seconds ● 10 seconds ○ 20 seconds
1 Uplink Antenna Selection	<ul><li>Auto</li></ul>
	Forced Sector Antenna
	O Forced Smart Antenna
	Start Test
Downlink	28.704 Mbps
Uplink	7.046 Mbps
Aggregate	35.75 Mbps
Customer #2	
SM MAC Addres.	s 00:04:56:F0:25:CB
Packet Size	e Small (128 bytes)
	Medium (800 bytes)
	<ul><li>Large (1500 bytes)</li></ul>
Duration	n
Uplink Antenna Selection	n   Auto
	Forced Sector Antenna
	Forced Smart Antenna
	Start Test
Downlin	k 31.471 Mbps
Uplini	k 9.662 Mbps
Aggregate	e 41.133 Mbps

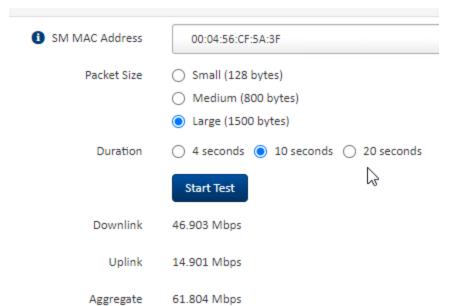
#### Customer #3



#### Customer #4



#### Customer #5



## Challenge to APP-004271 (Bottle Bay)

#### Challenge: Is your project in an area where 50% of households is in an unserved area?

The application asks if the project is in an area where 50% of the households are unserved. Bonner County is relying on FCC form 477 data from June 2019 to identify areas that are unserved. Kaniksu established service in Bottle Bay in August 2019 and has seen dramatic growth in this area in the last year. This data has not yet been published and therefore is not available to demonstrate that it is no longer an unserved area.

Kaniksu has multiple fixed wireless relay locations to serve the Bottle Bay, Oden Bay, Sunnyside, and North side of Sagle (Eureka Road area). Kaniksu estimates that it can reach 275 households in the project's proposed coverage area, with up to 75/25 Mbps. Based on the applicant's estimated households who may receive service, Kaniksu's coverage is able to serve 53% of the applicant's project area. This is before consideration is given to other providers who also serve the area.

Depending on the part of the proposed project area, using FCC Form 477 data, between up to five additional providers (excluding satellite providers) are offering a minimum 10/1 Mbps.

Provider	Down	Up	Technology
Wired or Wireless	30	10	Fixed Wireless
Pend Oreille Valley	50	20	Fixed Wireless
Networks			
Frontier	25	2	ADSL
Communications (Ziply)			
laser image, Inc.	30	5	Fixed Wireless
E.L. Automation Inc.	25	3	Fixed Wireless

**Source**: FCC Form 477 data – June 2019. Excludes Satellite providers, and providers who do not offer a minimum of 10/1 Mbps.

# Challenge: Is your project in an area where more than 50% of households is in an underserved area?

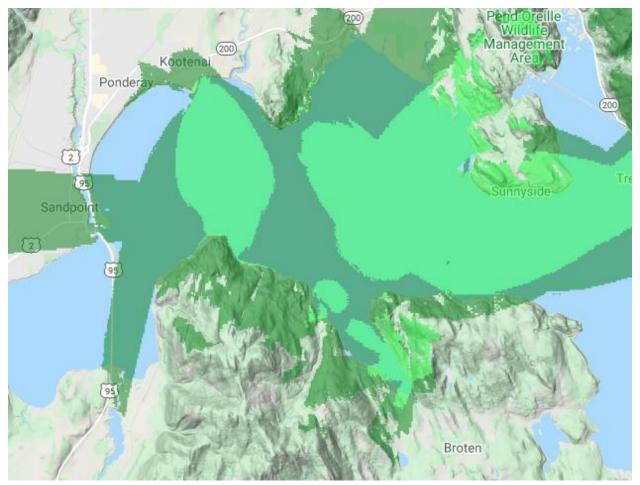
The application asks if the project is in an area where more than 50% of the households are in an underserved area, defined as 25/3 Mbps. Bonner County is relying on FCC form 477 data from June 2019 to identify areas that are unserved. Kaniksu established service in Bottle Bay in August 2019 and has seen dramatic growth in this area in the last year. This data has not yet been published by the FCC and therefore is not available to demonstrate that it is no longer an underserved area.

Kaniksu has multiple fixed wireless locations to serve the Bottle Bay, Oden Bay, Sunnyside, and North side of Sagle (Eureka Road area). Kaniksu estimates that it can reach 275 households in the project's proposed coverage area, with a base service of 30/10 Mbps, and up to 75/25 Mbps. Based on the applicant's estimated households who may receive service, Kaniksu's coverage is able to serve 53% of the applicant's project area. This is before consideration is given to other providers who also serve the area.

Depending on the part of the proposed project area, using FCC Form 477 data, up to four additional providers (excluding satellite providers) are offering a minimum 25/3 Mbps.

Provider	Down	Up	Technology
Wired or Wireless	30	10	Fixed Wireless
Pend Oreille Valley	50	20	Fixed Wireless
Networks			
laser image, Inc.	30	5	Fixed Wireless
E.L. Automation Inc.	25	3	Fixed Wireless

**Source**: FCC Form 477 data – June 2019. Excludes Satellite providers, and providers who do not offer a minimum of 25/3 Mbps.



Kaniksu's estimated coverage map for Bottle Bay, and surrounding areas. This map estimates service is available in a minimum of 50% of the Applicant's Bottle Bay project area, with a base speed of 30/10 Mbps and up to 75/25 Mbps.

## Challenge: Project Schedule

## Challenge: Project Budget

## Challenge to APP-004273 (East of Clark Fork and Cabinet Mountain area)

### Challenge: Is your project in an area where 50% of households is in an unserved area?

The application asks if the project is in an area where 50% of the households are unserved, defined as 10/1 Mbps. Bonner County is relying on FCC form 477 data from June 2019 to identify areas that are unserved. Kaniksu established service in the Clark Fork area, and just installed fixed wireless equipment to serve the cabinet area east of Clark Fork in late June of 2020. This data has not yet been published and therefore is not available to demonstrate that it is no longer an unserved area.

Kaniksu is offering up to 75/25 Mbps service using fixed wireless infrastructure. Kaniksu estimates that using its existing infrastructure it can serve approximately 164 households just east of Clark Fork to the Montana state line. This represents 50.1% of the applicants proposed project area having access to 10/1 Mbps or better service.

Service options from other providers is more limited in the applicant's proposed service area, however according to June 2019 FCC Form 477 data, the following providers offer service in at least a portion of the proposed project area.

Provider	Down	Up	Technology
Wired or Wireless	30	10	Fixed Wireless
Pend Oreille Valley	50	20	Fixed Wireless
Networks			

**Source**: FCC Form 477 data – June 2019. Excludes Satellite providers, and providers who do not offer a minimum of 10/1 Mbps.

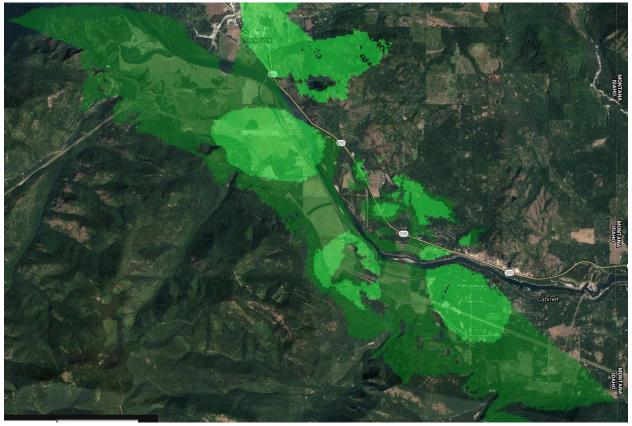
# Challenge: Is your project in an area where more than 50% of households is in an underserved area?

The application asks if the project is in an area where more than 50% of the households are in an underserved area, defined as 25/3 Mbps. Bonner County is relying on FCC form 477 data from June 2019 to identify areas that are unserved. Kaniksu established service in the Clark Fork area, and just installed fixed wireless equipment to serve the cabinet area east of Clark Fork in late June of 2020. This data has not yet been published and therefore is not available to demonstrate that it is no longer an underserved area.

Kaniksu is currently offering up to 75/25 Mbps service using fixed wireless infrastructure. Kaniksu estimates that using its existing infrastructure it can serve 164 households just east of Clark Fork to the Montana state line. This represents 50.1% of the applicants proposed project area having access to 10/1 Mbps or better service.

Provider	Down	Up	Technology
Wired or Wireless	30	10	Fixed Wireless
Pend Oreille Valley	50	20	Fixed Wireless
Networks			

**Source**: FCC Form 477 data – June 2019. Excludes Satellite providers, and providers who do not offer a minimum of 25/3 Mbps.



Kaniksu's estimated coverage map for the Cabinet area. This map estimates coverage to 150 households in the Applicant's project area, with a base speed of 30/10 Mbps and up to 75/25 Mbps.

## Challenge: Project Schedule

The project schedule submitted for this application does not appear to be related to the applicant's project.

## Challenge: Project Budget

## Challenge to APP-004278 (Ellisport Bay)

#### Challenge: Is your project in an area where 50% of households is in an unserved area?

The application asks if the project is in an area where 50% of the households are unserved. Bonner County is relying on FCC form 477 data from June 2019 to identify areas that are unserved. Kaniksu has seen dramatic growth in the Ellisport Bay area since June 2019. This data has not yet been published and therefore is not available to demonstrate that it is no longer an unserved area.

To date, Kaniksu has 258 customers in the proposed project area. The applicant states that 508 households may receive broadband service because of this project. That would represent all households in the area, of which 258 are already covered by a minimum of 15/5 Mbps. Based on the applicant's numbers, Kaniksu's market share alone represents 51% of customers in the proposed project area.

Reviewing the FCC Fixed Broadband Deployment Map, and excluding satellite technology, service from other providers includes 3 providers, all offering a minimum of 25/2 Mbps, thus excluding it from being considered an unserved area.

Provider	Down	Up	Technology
Wired or Wireless	30	10	Fixed Wireless
Pend Oreille Valley	50	20	Fixed Wireless
Networks			
Frontier	25	2	ADSL
Communications (Ziply)			

**Source**: FCC Form 477 data – June 2019. Excludes Satellite providers, and providers who do not offer a minimum of 10/1 Mbps.

# Challenge: Is your project in an area where more than 50% of households is in an underserved area?

The application asks if the project is in an area where more than 50% of the households are in an underserved area, defined as 25/3 Mbps. Bonner County is relying on FCC form 477 data from June 2019 to identify areas that are unserved. Kaniksu saw dramatic growth in the area starting in the summer of 2019. This data has not yet been published by the FCC and therefore is not available to demonstrate that it is no longer an underserved area.

The applicant states that 508 households may receive broadband service because of this project. That would represent all households in the project area, of which 258 are already customers of Kaniksu and 251 are eligible to receive a minimum of 30/10 Mbps up to 75/25 Mbps. Based on this data, 49.4% of the proposed project area is already covered by a minimum of 25/3 connection.

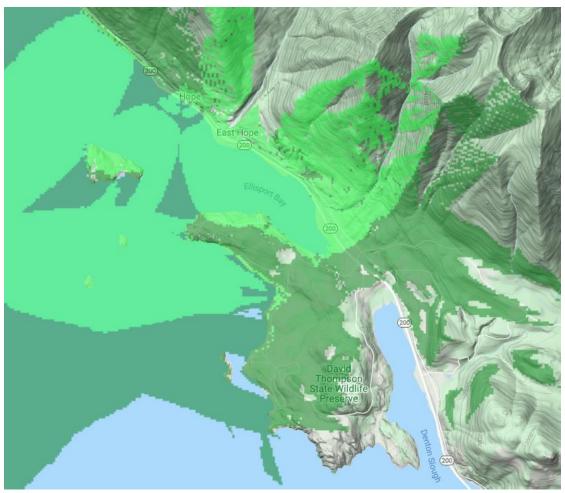
When taking Kaniksu's market share, and combining it with other providers in the area, more than 50% of the households in the proposed project area able to receive a minimum of 25/3. Reviewing the FCC's

Form 477 data, all providers except Frontier Communications (Ziply), are offering a minimum of 30/10 Mbps.

Provider	Down	Up	Technology
Wired or Wireless	30	10	Fixed Wireless
Pend Oreille Valley	50	20	Fixed Wireless
Networks			
Frontier	25	2	ADSL
Communications (Ziply)			

**Source**: FCC Form 477 data – June 2019. Excludes Satellite providers, and providers who do not offer a minimum of 10/1 Mbps.

Additionally, Kaniksu has requested and received franchise agreements with the city of East Hope and Hope and are currently preparing to start on this construction later this year. After the completion of this project, households in the fiber to the home area will be eligible for up to 1000/300 Mbps.



Kaniksu's estimated coverage map for Ellisport Bay, which includes Hope, East Hope and Hope Peninsula. This map estimates coverage to nearly all households in the Applicant's Ellisport Bay project area, with a base speed of 30/10 Mbps and up to 75/25 Mbps.

Challenge: List the underserved and unserved community facilities (schools, libraries, government offices, hospitals, public safety, etc.) within the proposed project area.

The applicant states that Hope Elementary School and Sam Owen Fire District are both underserved or unserved facilities. Hope Elementary School is using Fiber optic internet with an estimated service 2 Gbps download provided by Fatbeam, and Sam Owen Fire District "Station 1" receives 30 Mbps service from Wired or Wireless. The fire department has received funding to purchase equipment that will bring 30 Mbps service to "Station 2" using Kaniksu's service.

Embedded Link Source: <a href="https://www.fiercetelecom.com/telecom/fatbeam-wins-11-new-e-rate-contracts-builds-200-fiber-miles-to-address-wireless-backhaul">https://www.fiercetelecom.com/telecom/fatbeam-wins-11-new-e-rate-contracts-builds-200-fiber-miles-to-address-wireless-backhaul</a>

## Challenge: Project Schedule

The project schedule submitted for this application does not appear to be related to the applicant's project.

### Challenge: Project Budget

## Challenge to APP-004279 (Glengary & Surrounding Areas)

### Challenge: Is your project in an area where 50% of households is in an unserved area?

The application asks if the project is in an area where 50% of the households are unserved, defined as 10/1 Mbps. Bonner County is relying on FCC form 477 data from June 2019 to identify areas that are unserved. Kaniksu has seen dramatic growth in the area starting in the summer of 2019. This data has not yet been published and therefore is not available to demonstrate that it is no longer an unserved area.

Kaniksu currently provides service to large portions of Glengary and the unincorporated areas around it using fixed wireless infrastructure. Kaniksu estimates that with its customer base alone, it represents 47% of the homes in the Glengary area, is and able to service customers with up to 75/25 Mbps service.

Kaniksu estimates that it can serve 70% of the homes in the area north of Garfield Bay and Sunrise Bay, using our fixed wireless infrastructure and providing service up to 75/25 Mbps.

Additionally, Kaniksu has agreements in place and is in the design phase of a fiber construction project in the application's described area. With the completion of the fiber to the home service, we anticipate being able to offer fiber service to 60 additional homes with a base service of 50/15 Mbps and up to 1000/300 Mbps.

Reviewing the FCC Fixed Broadband Deployment Map, and excluding satellite technology, service from other providers includes 3 providers, all offering a minimum of 30/5 Mbps, thus excluding it from being considered an unserved area.

Provider	Down	Up	Technology
Wired or Wireless	30	10	Fixed Wireless
Pend Oreille Valley	50	20	Fixed Wireless
Networks			
laser image, Inc.	30	5	Fixed Wireless

**Source**: FCC Form 477 data – June 2019. Excludes Satellite providers, and providers who do not offer a minimum of 10/1 Mbps.

# Challenge: Is your project in an area where more than 50% of households is in an underserved area?

The application asks if the project is in an area where more than 50% of the households are in an underserved area, defined as 25/3 Mbps. Bonner County is relying on FCC form 477 data from June 2019 to identify areas that are unserved. Kaniksu has seen dramatic growth in the area starting in the summer of 2019. This data has not yet been published and therefore is not available to demonstrate that it is no longer an underserved area.

Kaniksu currently provides service to large portions of Glengary and the unincorporated areas around it using fixed wireless infrastructure. Kaniksu estimates that with its customer base alone, it represents 47% of the homes in the Glengary area, is and able to service customers with service up to 75/25 Mbps.

Kaniksu estimates that it alone can serve 70% of the homes in the area north of Garfield Bay and Sunrise Bay, using our fixed wireless infrastructure and providing service up to 75/25 Mbps. Additional providers also offer service in the area at or above the 25/3 Mbps service level.

Provider	Down	Up	Technology
Wired or Wireless	30	10	Fixed Wireless
Pend Oreille Valley	50	20	Fixed Wireless
Networks			
Frontier	25	2	ADSL
Communications (Ziply)			

**Source**: FCC Form 477 data – June 2019. Excludes Satellite providers, and providers who do not offer a minimum of 10/1 Mbps.

Finally, Kaniksu has agreements in place and is in the design phase of a fiber construction project in the application's described area. With the completion of the fiber to the home service, we anticipate being able to offer fiber service to 60 additional homes with a base service of 50/15 Mbps and up to 1000/300 Mbps.



Close up of the estimated Kaniksu coverage map for Glengary and surrounding areas using fixed wireless infrastructure. A More than 50% of the homes in this area are at or near the lake.

## Challenge: Project Schedule

The project schedule submitted for this application does not appear to be related to the applicant's project.

## Challenge: Project Budget

## Challenge to APP-004282 (Spring Creek)

## Challenge: Is your project in an area where 50% of households is in an unserved area?

The application asks if the project is in an area where 50% of the households are unserved. Bonner County is relying on FCC form 477 data from June 2019 to identify areas that are unserved. Kaniksu established service in Spring Creek in April 2020 and is seeing strong interest and growth in this area. Because this area is so new to Kaniksu, updated data has not yet been published and therefore is not available to demonstrate that it is no longer an unserved area.

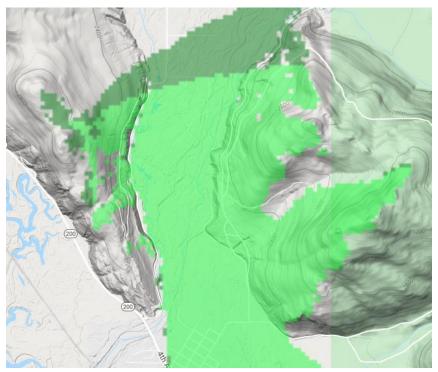
Kaniksu offers service up to 75/25 Mbps in the Spring Creek area. Kaniksu estimates that its current infrastructure will allow service of up to 75/25 Mbps to 92 households in the applicant's project area. This calculates out to 63% of the households in the project area being eligible to receive 10/1 Mbps or better service.

Kaniksu has offered service in the area for approximately a month, and to date has 8 customers on a minimum of 15/5 Mbps connection, and all are able to receive up to of 75/25 Mbps service. Additionally, Kaniksu's scheduled install appointments show another 3 scheduled for installs in the next 4 weeks.

Other providers in the applicant's project area include-

Provider	Down	Up	Technology
Wired or Wireless	30	10	Fixed Wireless
Pend Oreille Valley	50	20	Fixed Wireless
Networks			
Frontier	12	1	ADSL
Communications (Ziply)			

**Source**: FCC Form 477 data – June 2019. Excludes Satellite providers, and providers who do not offer a minimum of 10/1 Mbps.



Kaniksu's estimated coverage map for the Cabinet area. This map estimates coverage to 92 households in the Applicant's estimated project area, with up to 75/25 Mbps service being available.

# Challenge: Is your project in an area where more than 50% of households is in an underserved area?

The application asks if the project is in an area where more than 50% of the households are in an underserved area, defined as 25/3 Mbps. Bonner County is relying on FCC form 477 data from June 2019 to identify areas that are unserved. Kaniksu established service in Spring Creek in April 2020 and is seeing strong interest and growth in this area. Because this area is so new to Kaniksu, updated data has not yet been published and therefore is not available to demonstrate that it is no longer an underserved area.

Kaniksu offers up to 75/25 Mbps service in the Spring Creek area. Kaniksu estimates that its current infrastructure will allow service of a minimum of 30/10 Mbps to 92 households in the applicant's project area. This calculates out to 63% of the households in the project area being eligible receive 75/25 Mbps or better service.

Other providers in the applicant's project area include-

Provider	Down	Up	Technology
Wired or Wireless	30	10	Fixed Wireless
Pend Oreille Valley	50	20	Fixed Wireless
Networks			

**Source**: FCC Form 477 data – June 2019. Excludes Satellite providers, and providers who do not offer a minimum of 25/3 Mbps.

## Challenge: Project Schedule

The project schedule submitted for this application does not appear to be related to the applicant's project.

## Challenge: Project Budget

From: Kevin Neal <kevin@safelinkinternet.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 22, 2020 4:27 PM

**To:** COM Broadband

**Subject:** Broadband Grant Challenge American Falls School District APP-004262

**Attachments:** AmericanFallsCoverage.jpg

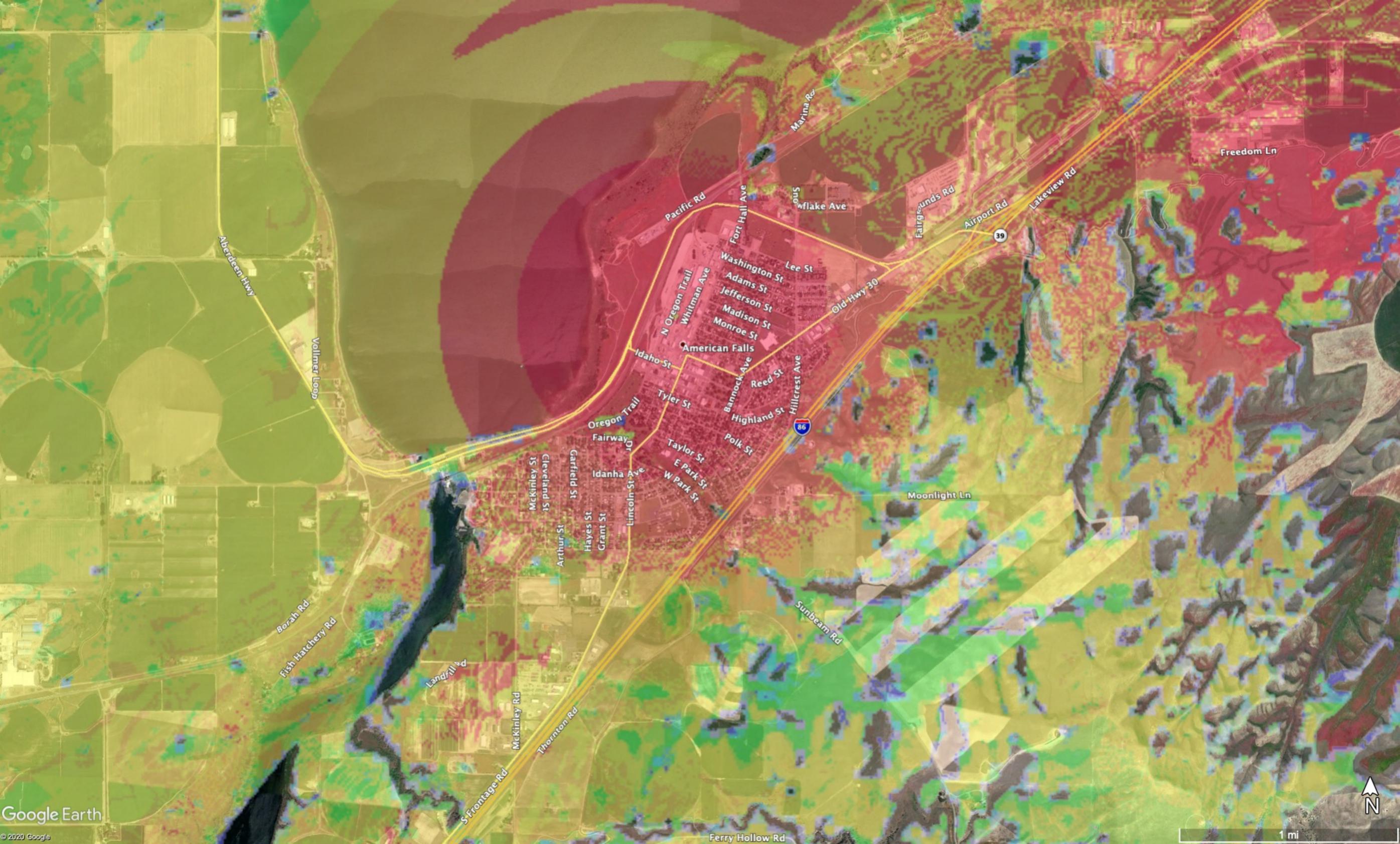
In the American Falls School District's application - ID APP-004262 they were missing some important details that would be needed for your scoring criteria.

The application does not meet the stated criteria: 50% of households are currently in an unserved area and 50% of households are in an underserved area.

Safelink Internet has been a long-standing Internet Service Provider for the American Falls area and continues to upgrade equipment to best service customers in the community. We have active service in the stated area of the City's application.

Attached is a copy of our coverage map. Any location within the red, orange, and yellow zones are capable of subscribing to our 25x5 plan, using our standard equipment. Customers in the green areas are also capable of subscribing to our 25x5 plan with a larger antenna that is also available through Safelink.

There is also another provider in the area that also offers similar speeds.



From: Kevin Neal <kevin@safelinkinternet.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 22, 2020 4:28 PM

**To:** COM Broadband

**Subject:** Broadband Grant Challenge City of Melba APP-004309

**Attachments:** MelbaCoverage.png

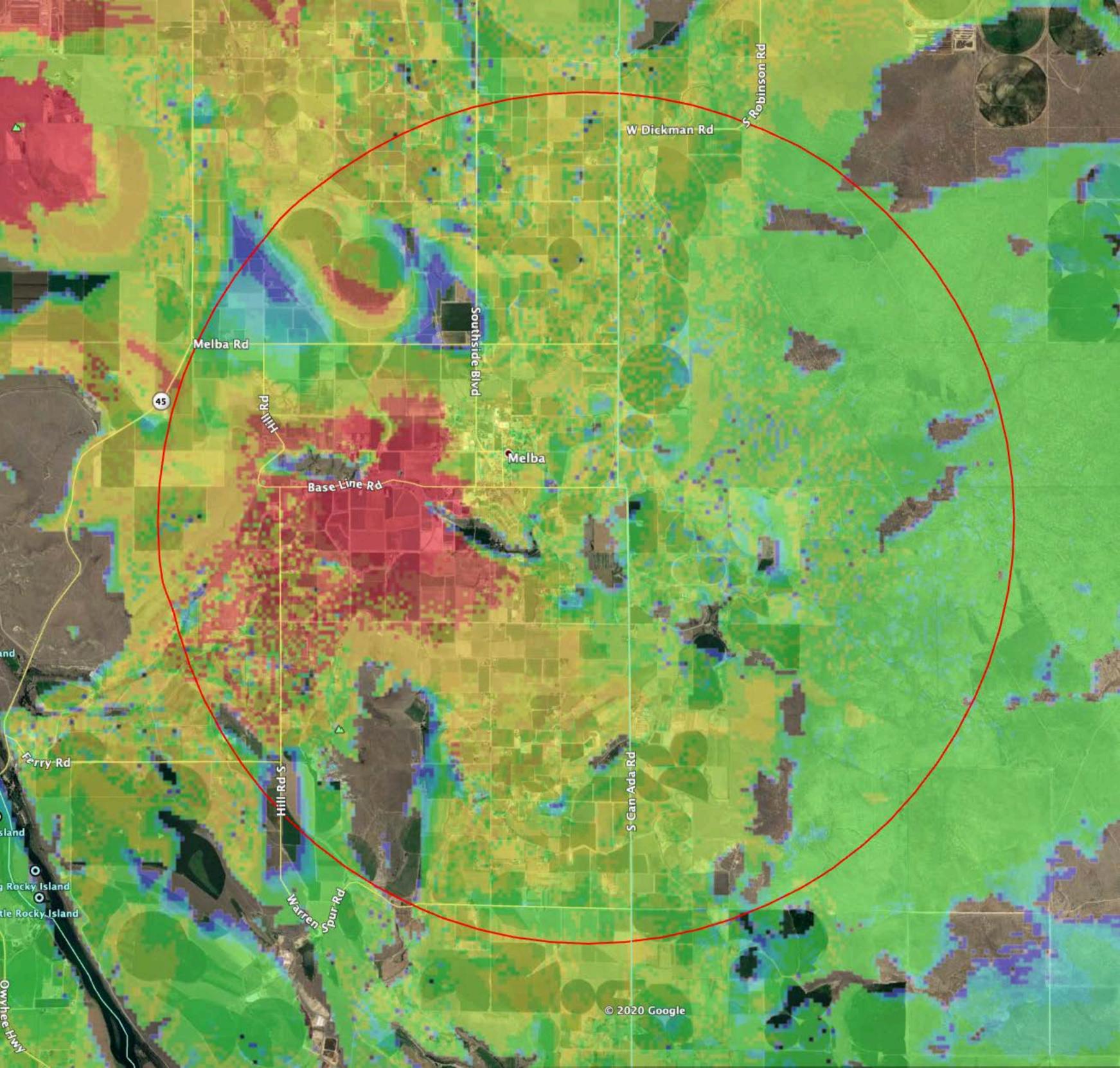
In the City of Melba's application - ID APP-004309 they were missing some important details that would be needed for your scoring criteria.

The application does not meet the stated criteria: 50% of households are in an underserved area.

Safelink Internet has been a long-standing Internet Service Provider for the Melba area and continues to upgrade equipment to best service customers in the community. We have active service in the stated area of the City's application.

Attached is a copy of our coverage map. Any location within the red, orange, and yellow zones are capable of subscribing to our 25x5 plan, using our standard equipment. Customers in the green areas are also capable of subscribing to our 25x5 plan with a larger antenna that is also available through Safelink.

The approval of the City of Melba application would only subsidize another Wireless Internet Service Provider who offers similar speeds to the 3 current providers in the area and would not provide any noticeable benefit to the community.



## Challenge to APP-004276 (Clark Fork)

Challenge Question: List the underserved and unserved community facilities (schools, libraries, government offices, hospitals, public safety, etc.) within the proposed project area.

The application asks for a list of underserved or unserved community facilities in the within the proposed project area. The applicant lists Clark Fork Jr./Sr. High School and the Clark Fork Valley Fire District. Clark Fork Jr./Sr. High School is served with a fiber circuit provided by Fatbeam that provides a 2Gbps service, and Clark Fork Valley Fire District is provided with a 45/15 Mbps fixed wireless service from Kaniksu. Additionally, Kaniksu has agreements in place with the City of Clark Fork to use the fire station for their backhaul infrastructure. Both Clark Fork Jr./Sr. High School and Clark Fork Valley Fire District also has available fiber termination points at the edge of their property.

Embedded Link Source: <a href="https://www.fiercetelecom.com/telecom/fatbeam-wins-11-new-e-rate-contracts-builds-200-fiber-miles-to-address-wireless-backhaul">https://www.fiercetelecom.com/telecom/fatbeam-wins-11-new-e-rate-contracts-builds-200-fiber-miles-to-address-wireless-backhaul</a>

#### **Project Schedule**

The project schedule submitted for this application does not appear to be related to the applicant's project.

## Project Budget

From: Kevin Neal <kevin@safelinkinternet.com>

Sent: Wednesday, July 22, 2020 4:28 PM

**To:** COM Broadband

**Subject:** Broadband Grant Challenge City of Roberts APP-004179

**Attachments:** RobertsCoverage.png

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

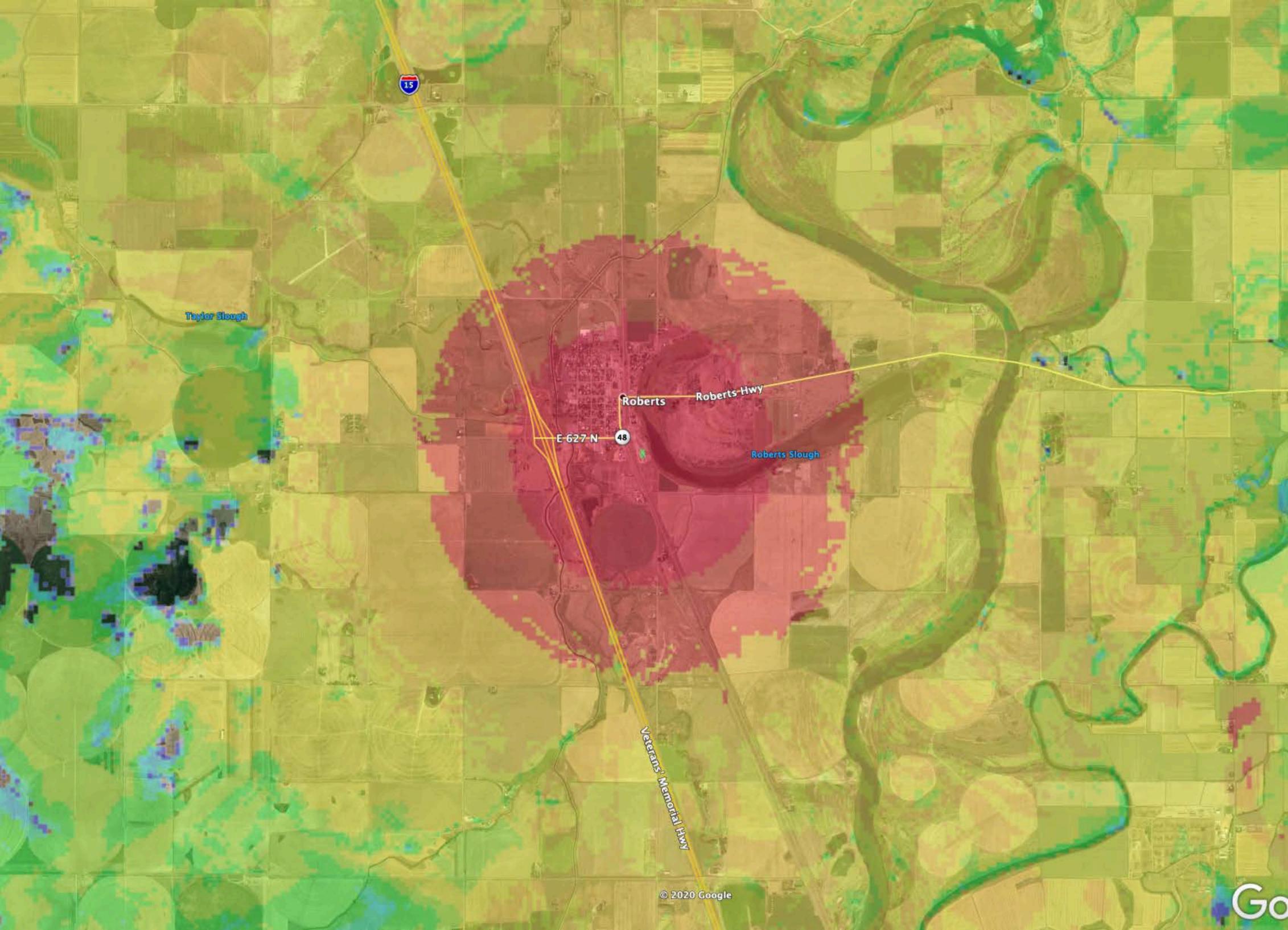
In the City of Roberts application - APP- 004179 they were missing some important details that would be needed for your scoring criteria.

The application does not meet the stated criteria: 50% of households are currently in an unserved area and 50% of households are in an underserved area.

Safelink Internet has been a long-standing Internet Service Provider for the Roberts area and continues to upgrade equipment to best service customers in the community. We have active service in the stated area of the City's application. Safelink also operates an active tower site within city limits, not just the hilltop location purported in the application.

Attached is a copy of our coverage map. Any location within the red, orange, and yellow zones are capable of subscribing to our 25x5 plan, using our standard equipment. Customers in the green areas are also capable of subscribing to our 25x5 plan with a larger antenna that is also available through Safelink.

There are three current providers in the area and approval of the City of Roberts' application would only subsidize an overbuild of the 3 current providers in the area.



From: Kevin Neal <kevin@safelinkinternet.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 22, 2020 4:28 PM

To: COM Broadband

**Subject:** Broadband Grant Challenge City of Murtaugh APP-004237

**Attachments:** Murtaugh Coverage.png

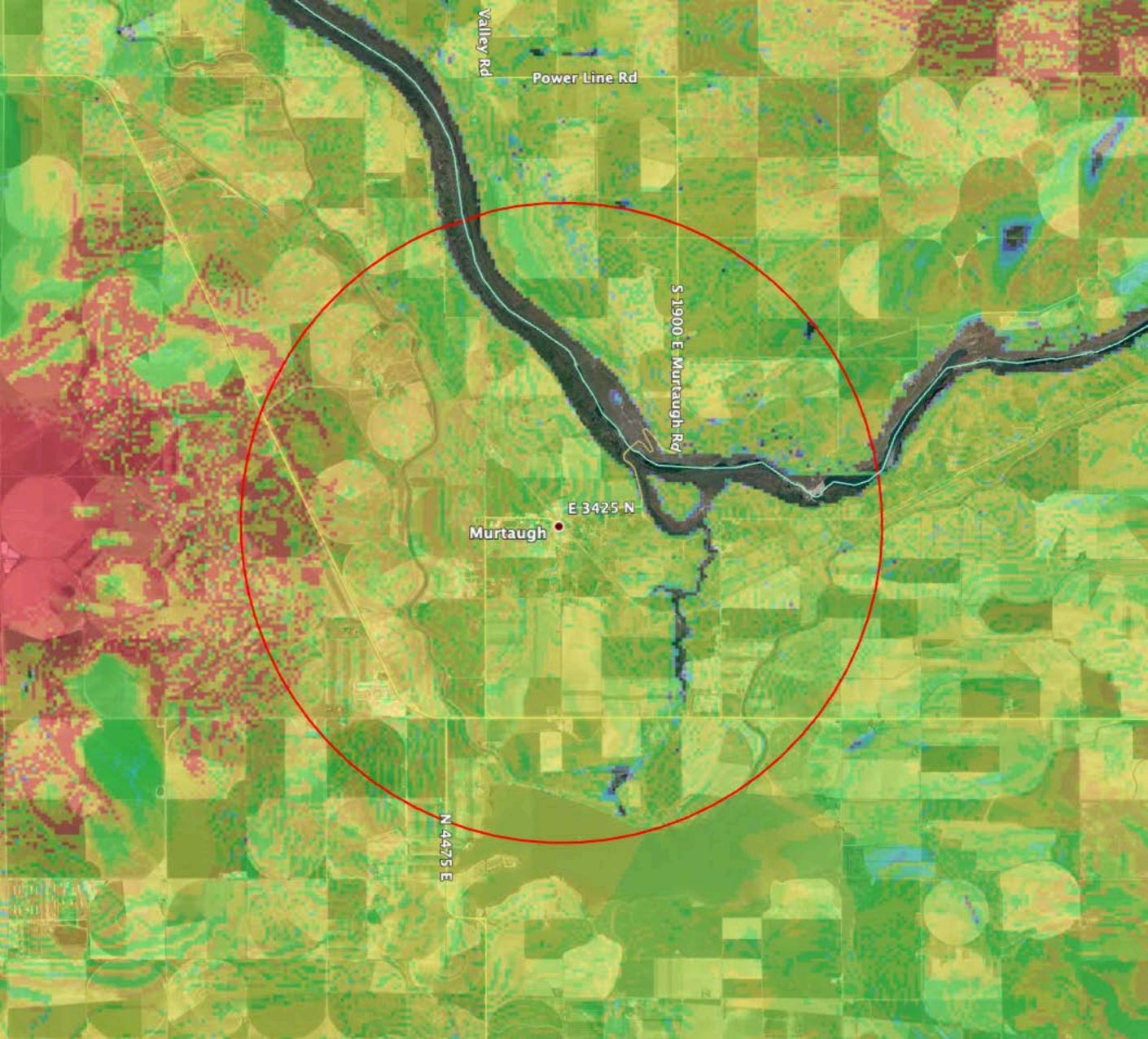
Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

In the City of Murtaugh's application - APP-004237 they were missing some important details that would be needed for your scoring criteria.

#### The two criteria are:

- 1. The application does not meet the stated criteria: 50% of households are currently in an unserved area and 50% of households are in an underserved area.
  - a. Safelink Internet has been a long-standing Internet Service Provider for the Murtaugh area and continues to upgrade equipment to best service customers in the community. We have active service in the stated area of the City's application, with the area inside the canyon accounting for our stated coverage being at 96.2%. Everything above the canyon is within our coverage and is being served with speeds up to 25 Mbps downloads.
  - b. Attached is a copy of our coverage map. Any location within the red, orange, and yellow zones are capable of subscribing to our 25x5 plan, using our standard equipment. Customers in the green areas are also capable of subscribing to our 25x5 plan with a larger antenna that is also available through Safelink.
- 2. The application submitted included a letter from a current Safelink customer purporting they do not receive the 25Mbps speeds at their location. However, this customer has never subscribed to our 25Mbps plan and is only on our 20x4 plan as evidenced by the screenshots attached to the application. Therefore, their claim has no merit as it does not reflect the capabilities of the service but only the plan they subscribe to.

The approval of the City of Murtaugh application would only subsidize another Wireless Internet Service Provider who offers similar speeds to the 3 current providers in the area and would not provide any noticeable benefit to the community.



From: Kevin Neal <kevin@safelinkinternet.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 22, 2020 4:28 PM

**To:** COM Broadband

**Subject:** Broadband Grant Challenge City of Wendell APP-004185

**Attachments:** WendellCoverage.png

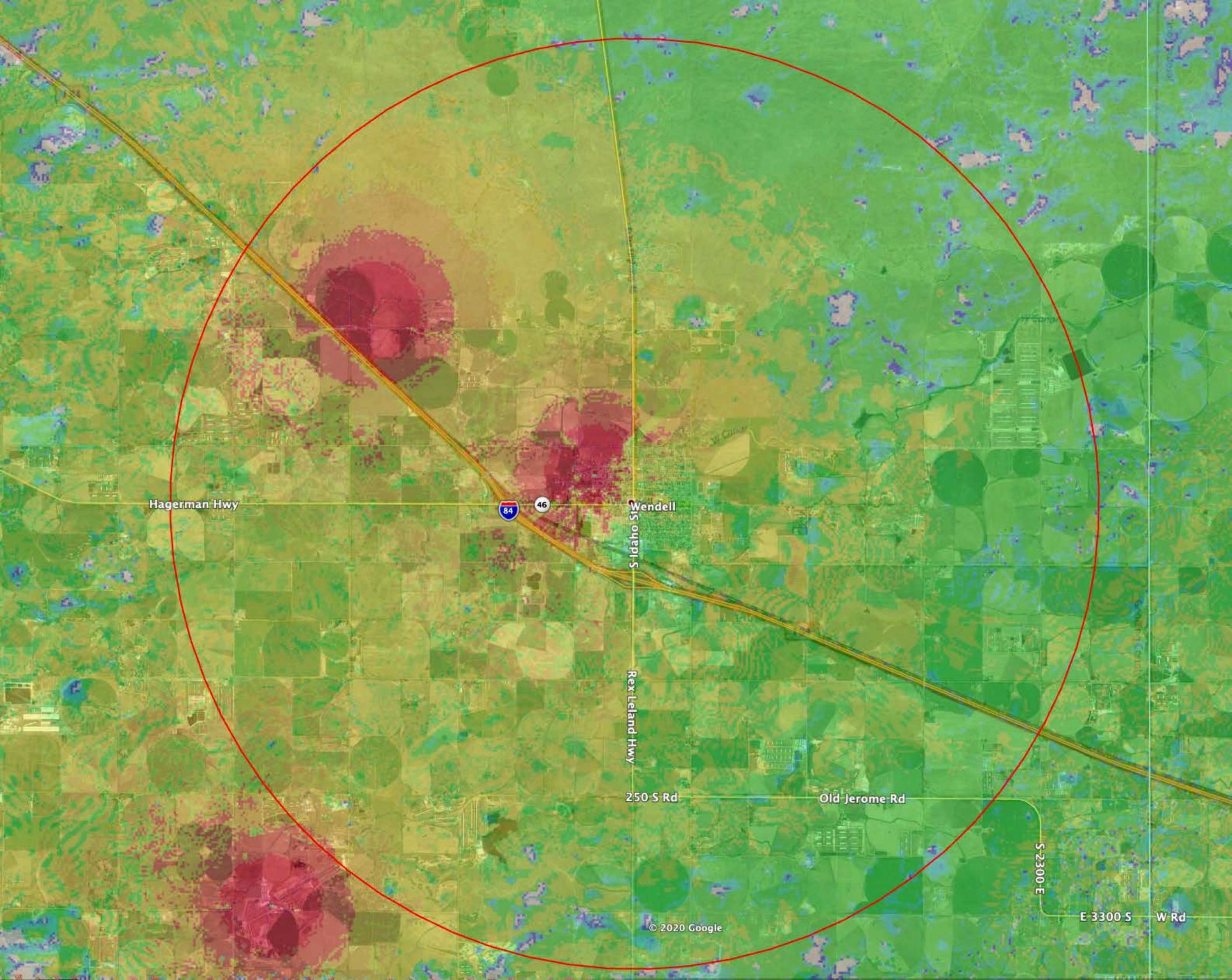
In the City of Wendell's application - APP-004185 they were missing some important details that would be needed for your scoring criteria.

## The application does not meet the stated criteria: 50% of households are in an underserved area.

Safelink Internet has been a long-standing Internet Service Provider for the Wendell area and continues to upgrade equipment to best service customers in the community. We have active service in the stated area of the City's application.

Attached is a copy of our coverage map. Any location within the red, orange, and yellow zones are capable of subscribing to our 25x5 plan, using our standard equipment. Customers in the green areas are also capable of subscribing to our 25x5 plan with a larger antenna that is also available through Safelink.

The approval of the City of Wendell application would only subsidize another Wireless Internet Service Provider who offers similar speeds to the 3 current providers in the area and would not provide any noticeable benefit to the community.



## **Magaly Carrillo**

From: Kevin Neal <kevin@safelinkinternet.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 22, 2020 4:28 PM

**To:** COM Broadband

**Subject:** Broadband Grant Challenge City of Gooding APP-004291

**Attachments:** GoodingCoverage.png

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

In the City of Gooding's application - ID APP-004291 they were missing some important details that would be needed for your scoring criteria.

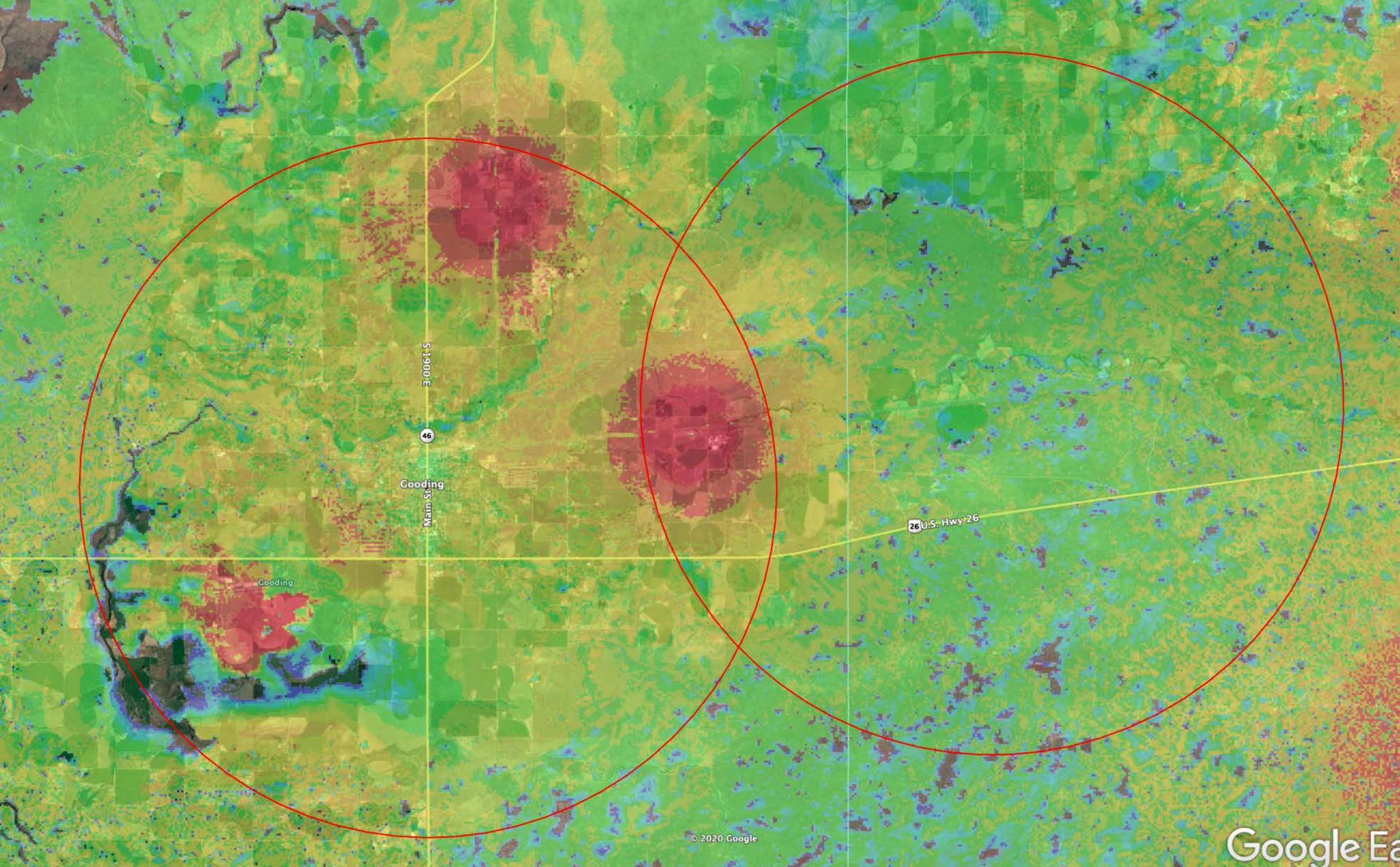
The application does not meet the stated criteria: 50% of households are currently in an unserved area and 50% of households are in an underserved area.

Safelink Internet has been a long-standing Internet Service Provider for the Gooding area and continues to upgrade equipment to best service customers in the community. We have active service in the stated area of the City's application.

Attached is a copy of our coverage map. Any location within the red, orange, and yellow zones are capable of subscribing to our 25x5 plan, using our standard equipment. Customers in the green areas are also capable of subscribing to our 25x5 plan with a larger antenna that is also available through Safelink.

The approval of the City of Gooding application would only subsidize another Wireless Internet Service Provider who offers similar speeds to the 3 current providers in the area and would not provide any noticeable benefit to the community.

Respectfully, Kevin Neal IT Director Safelink Internet



# **Magaly Carrillo**

From: Clerk <city@clarkforkidaho.org>
Sent: Wednesday, July 22, 2020 12:34 PM

To: COM Broadband

**Subject:** Challenge to Broadband Grant Application - Households

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

To whom it may concern,

The City of Clark Fork would like challenge this submitted application from Bonner County:

Applicant: Nancy Twineham
Applicant ID: APP-004276

Company Name: Bonner County

Recipient Address: Bonner County 1500 Hwy 2 Ste 308 Sandpoint, ID 83864

Phone: (208) 265-1438

Email nancy.twineham@bonnercountyid.gov

Amount Requested: \$79,442.00 Status: Submitted Funded Application Title: Clark Fork

The City of Clark Fork has never authorized Intermax or Bonner County to apply for this grant under it's name. We have already submitted an application for this grant using a different provider.

Amber Burgess, City Clerk/Treasurer City of Clark Fork P.O. Box 10 Clark Fork, ID 83811 208-266-1315



Boise 10350 W. Emerald Boise, ID 83704 (208)332-0188 Twin Falls 460 Main Ave S Twin Falls, ID 83301 (208)736-0188

http://www.tek-finity.com

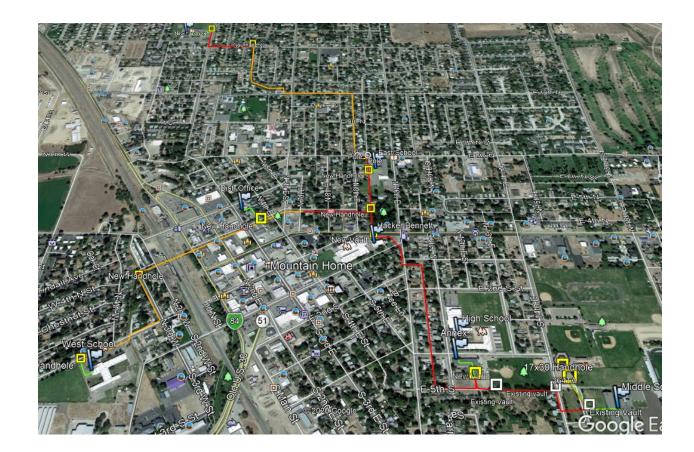
I am writing to challenge the application by the City of Mountain Home, applicant ID APP-004115.

Currently my companies serve the Mountain Home School district with 1000 Mbps symmetrical Internet Access, and we also offer the community broadband services up to 25M in town and an 8 miles radius around the town. Every school in town has a 10Gbps connection (10 times the required bandwidth). We also serve the City Library.

One of the project requirements is that the project does not overbuild existing broadband infrastructure at the required speeds to a local government facility.

This application would overbuild our existing infrastructure, we currently even have fiber on some of the proposed route. Our existing fiber footprint runs almost 5 miles through and around town and has unlimited capacity.

The approval of the application from the City will overbuild our existing fiber footprint. I have attached our routes in town below. We also currently offer LTE services in and around town. There is also an existing cable provider that exceeds the broadband requirements.



# FyberCom LLC



# Broadband Grant Challenge

Prepared by: George Swanson

July 23, 2020

# BASIS OF CHALLENGE

#### **Overview**

FyberCom is challenging grant application APP-004181. FyberCom will be challenging the criteria of the application and demonstrate how it is not met. FyberCom has invested hundreds of thousands of dollars of private funds into building and expanding the broadband infrastructure in the Country Club area.

### **Availability of Service**

FyberCom is currently servicing all of the proposed grant mapped area. This area currently has gigabit service,  $1000 \times 1000$ Mbps that is available through fiber optics. In addition to Fiber, its wireless services in the proposed area is capable of  $40 \times 10$ Mbps. FyberCom currently has 28% of the proposed area covered by its Fiber optic products and services and will have the other 72% completed by November 30, 2020. FyberCom currently services 55% of the residences in the proposed area with its  $40 \times 10$ Mbps product. Refer to picture 3 for current data on FyberCom.

#### **Current Served**

Currently 28% of homes are passed with fiber in proposed grant area. The other 66.8% of homes are on our Fixed Wireless service providing speeds up to 40 x 10Mbps.

#### **Criteria of Application**

According to the State of Idaho Broadband Grant Application Line 2 'Eligible Projects', Item A, Subcategory i. that this grant must be used for an infrastructure investment related to broadband as defined by the FCC: speeds of 25mbps download and 3mbps upload. According to Form 477 of the FCC's broadband map locate at <a href="mailto:broadbandmap.fcc.gov">broadbandmap.fcc.gov</a> FyberCom is currently servicing all of the proposed grant area with more than the minimum speeds required by this grant.

According to the State of Idaho Broadband Grant Application Line 2 'Eligible Projects', Item A, Subcategory iii. that the proposed grant must be for a project that serves an under-built area and does not overbuild existing broadband service. FyberCom has already built out the proposed area with its private funds. It has spent over several years building the infrastructure in the proposed area. FyberCom will have completed the Country Club fiber project, and will have all homes passed by November 30, 2020. According the FCC data there are 6 other providers who also cover this area. This proposed grant is an overbuild of the Country Club and Hitt Road getting to it. See Form 477 data below that covers each census block in the preposed grant area.

## 477 Form Data

FRN: 0023650807 FyberCom LLC

Proposed Census Blocks: 160199701003141, 160199701003053, 160199701003056, 160199701003055, 160199701003054, 160199701003148, 160199701003049, 160199701003061, 160199701003145,

160199701003051, 160199701003052

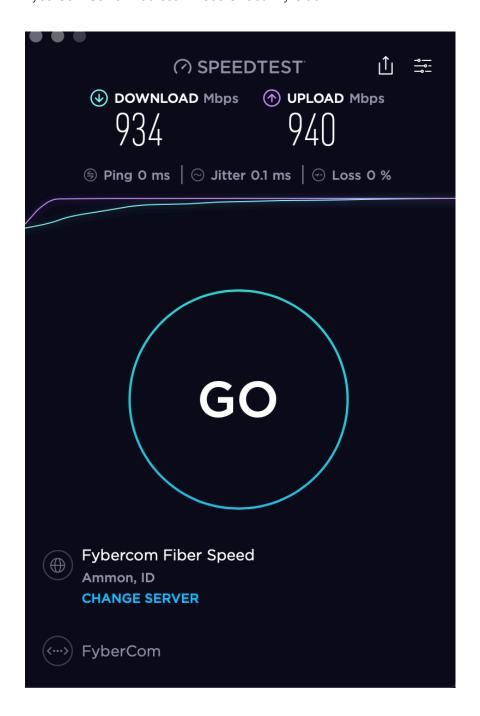
Here is FyberCom's 477 Form data providing proof of the serviced area:

## 2020-06-30-fbd

160199701003053	FyberCom LLC	50	1	40	10	1
160199701003049	FyberCom LLC	50	1	1000	1000	1
160199701003055	FyberCom LLC	50	1	40	10	1
160199701003061	FyberCom LLC	50	1	40	10	1
160199701003054	FyberCom LLC	50	1	40	10	1
160199701003141	FyberCom LLC	50	1	1000	1000	1
160199701003052	FyberCom LLC	50	1	40	10	1
160199701003056	FyberCom LLC	50	1	40	10	1
160199701003145	FyberCom LLC	50	1	10000	10000	1

## **Picture Data**

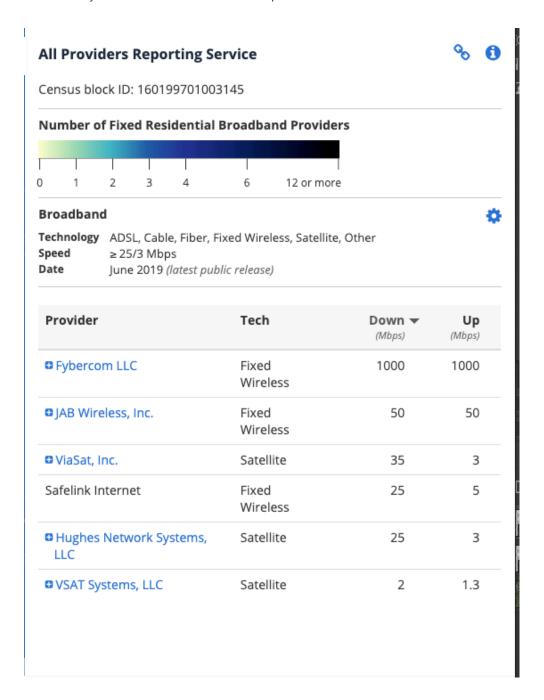
Picture 1: FyberCom Customer subscribed to gigabit residential fiber. Speed test done hardwired to Ammon FyberCom Server. Address- 11893 S. Country Club Dr.



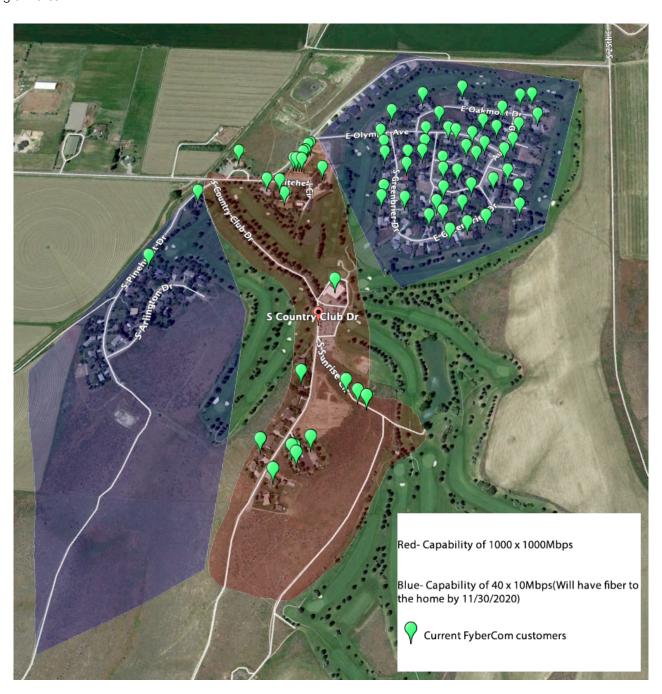
Picture 2: FyberCom's FCC Broadband Map Data



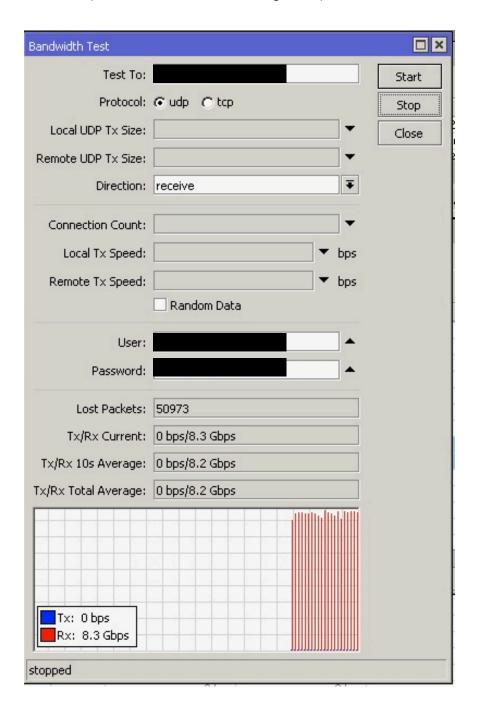
Picture 2: FyberCom's FCC Broadband Map Data Cont.



Picture 3: FyberCom current customer base with capabilities of  $1000 \times 1000$ Mbps (Shaded Red) or  $40 \times 100$ Mbps (Shaded Blue) Will have shaded blue area completed with fiber to the home by November 30, 2020 in proposed grant area.



Picture 4: Speed test from fiber hut, showing link capabilities.



## **Final Remarks**

FyberCom has been working on the Country Club fiber project for 2 months. Based on our experience with multiple fiber crews working this project that it would be very difficult to complete this project by the grant deadline of December 15, 2020 unless this project was already started. The proposed fiber run from Hitt Road is a 4 month project alone. This area is NOT underserved and does NOT meet the grant criteria.

# Fybercom LLC



# Broadband Grant Challenge

Prepared by: George Swanson

July 23, 2020

# BASIS OF CHALLENGE

#### **Overview**

Fybercom is challenging this grant application APP-004305, because of current service they already provide to part of the proposed grant area. Also Fybercom will be challenging the criteria of the application and demonstrate how it is not met.

## **Availability of Service**

Fybercom currently is servicing Melaleuca Field located at 900 Jim Garchow Way. Gigabyte service is available to them as requested.

#### **Current Served**

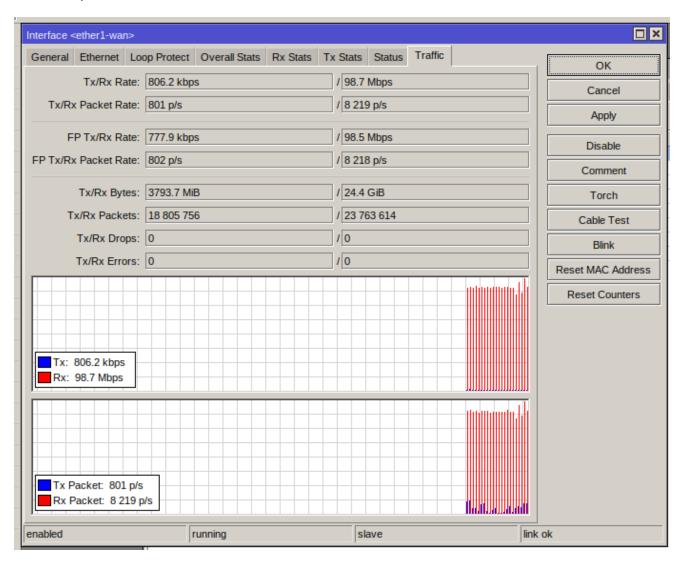
Currently Melaleuca Field is receiving 100mbps x 100mbps.

## **Criteria of Application**

According to the State of Idaho Broadband Grant Application Line 2 'Eligible Projects', Item A, Subcategory i. that this grant must be used for an infrastructure investment related to broadband as defined by the FCC: speeds of 25mbps download and 3mbps upload. According to Form 477 of the FCC's broadband map locate at <a href="mailto:broadbandmap.fcc.gov">broadbandmap.fcc.gov</a> Fybercom is currently servicing Melaleuca Field with those minimums.

#### **Picture Data**

Picture 1: Speed test from Melaleuca Field.



## **Final Remarks**

Fybercom has been working on the Country Club fiber project for 2 months. Based on our experience with multiple fiber crews working this project that it would be very difficult to complete this project by the grant deadline of December 15, 2020 unless this project was already started. The proposed fiber run from Hitt Rd is a 4 month project alone. This area is not underserved and does not need the requested grant.

# FyberCom LLC



# Broadband Grant Challenge

Prepared by: George Swanson

July 23, 2020

# BASIS OF CHALLENGE

#### **Overview**

FyberCom is challenging grant application APP-004153. FyberCom will be challenging the criteria of the application and demonstrate how it is not met. FyberCom has a significant financial investment in building and expanding the broadband infrastructure in the Lewisville area.

### **Availability of Service**

FyberCom is servicing this area currently with 90% of the proposed area covered by its Fixed Wireless products and services with 100 x 10Mbps. FyberCom currently services 49% of the residences in the proposed area with its 40 x 10Mbps product. Refer to picture 3 for current data on FyberCom's availability of service. Gigabit service is available upon request.

#### **Current Served**

Currently 49% of homes are serviced with 40 x 10Mbps product in the proposed grant area. FyberCom is also serving the Central Fire District and the LDS Church with 40 x 10Mbps service.

## **Criteria of Application**

According to the State of Idaho Broadband Grant Application Line 2 'Eligible Projects', Item A, Subcategory i. that this grant must be used for an infrastructure investment related to broadband as defined by the FCC: speeds of 25mbps download and 3mbps upload. According to Form 477 of the FCC's broadband map locate at <a href="mailto:broadbandmap.fcc.gov">broadbandmap.fcc.gov</a> FyberCom is currently servicing all of the proposed grant area with more than the minimum speeds required by this grant.

According to the State of Idaho Broadband Grant Application Line 2 'Eligible Projects', Item A, Subcategory iii. that the proposed grant must be for a project that serves an under-built area and does not overbuild existing broadband service. FyberCom has already built out the proposed area with its private funds. It has spent over several years building the infrastructure in the proposed area. According the FCC data there are 4 other providers who also cover this area at the minimum listed speeds by the FCC. See Form 477 data below that covers each census block in the preposed grant area.

#### 477 Form Data

FRN: 0023650807 FyberCom LLC

Proposed Census Blocks: 160519602002128, 160519602002118, 160519602002126, 160519602002125, 160519602002135, 160519602002124, 160519602002139, 160519602002140, 160519602002141, 160519602002142, 160519602002143, 160519602002138, 160519602002137, 160519602002136, 160519602002134, 160519602002133, 160519602002132, 160519602002127, 160519602002128, 160519602003096, 160519602002129, 160519602002130, 160519602002131, 160519602002151, 160519602002144, 160519602002145, 160519602002146, 160519602002147, 160519602002149, 160519602002154, 160519602002157, 160519602002164

Here is FyberCom's 477 Form data providing proof of the serviced area:

# Lewisville ID FBD

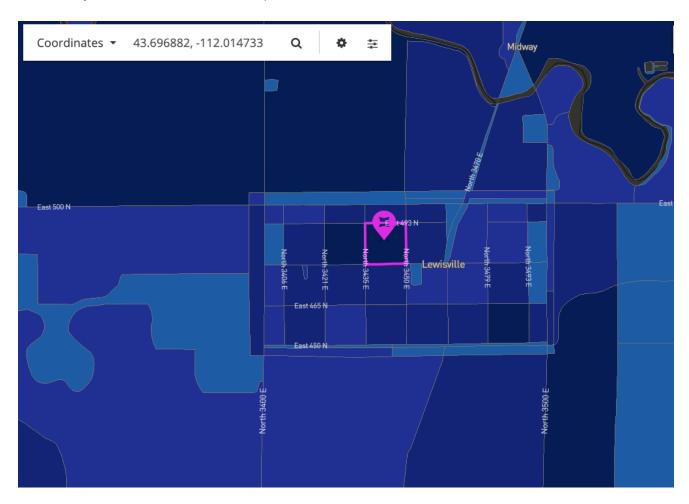
160519602003096	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160519602002147	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160519602002130	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160519602002131	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160519602002164	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160519602002138	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160519602002155	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160519602002132	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160519602002133	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160519602002149	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160519602002129	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160519602002118	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160519602002124	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160519602002125	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160519602002126	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160519602002127	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160519602002128	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160519602002134	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160519602002135	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160519602002136	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160519602002137	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160519602002139	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1

## **Picture Data**

Picture 1: LDS Church Speed test Address: 101 E Main St



Picture 2: FyberCom's FCC Broadband Map Data



Picture 2: FyberCom's FCC Broadband Map Data Cont.

# **All Providers Reporting Service**

Q.



Census block ID: 160519602002152

## **Number of Fixed Residential Broadband Providers**



## Broadband



Technology ADSL, Cable, Fiber, Fixed Wireless, Satellite, Other

Speed ≥ 25/3 Mbps

Date June 2019 (latest public release)

Provider	Tech	Down ▼ (Mbps)	<b>Up</b> (Mbps)
□ CenturyLink, Inc.	ADSL	100	10
JAB Wireless, Inc.	Fixed Wireless	50	50
• Fybercom LLC	Fixed Wireless	40	10
♥ ViaSat, Inc.	Satellite	35	3
Safelink Internet	Fixed Wireless	25	5
Hughes Network Systems, LLC	Satellite	25	3
■ VSAT Systems, LLC	Satellite	2	1.3

Picture 3: FyberCom current customer base with capabilities of 40 x 10Mbps.



## **Final Remarks**

FyberCom has been providing broadband in Lewisville's ID for 3 years. Fybercom is in the planning stage of running fiber optics to Lewisville with projected finish date of passing all homes by March 2021. This area is NOT underserved and does NOT meet the grant criteria.

# FyberCom LLC



# Broadband Grant Challenge

Prepared by: George Swanson

July 23, 2020

# BASIS OF CHALLENGE

#### **Overview**

FyberCom is challenging grant application APP-004275. FyberCom will be challenging the criteria of the application and demonstrate how it is not met. FyberCom has a significant financial investment in building and expanding the broadband infrastructure in the Archer area.

### **Availability of Service**

FyberCom is currently servicing all of the proposed grant mapped area. This area currently has its wireless services in the proposed area capable of 40 x 10Mbps. FyberCom currently has 99% of the proposed area covered by its products and services. FyberCom currently services 34% of the residences and businesses in the proposed area with its 40 x 10Mbps product. Refer to picture 3 for current data on FyberCom. Gigabit service is available upon request.

#### **Current Served**

Currently 99% of homes are capable of Fybercom's Fixed Wireless service providing speeds up to 40 x 10Mbps.

#### **Criteria of Application**

According to the State of Idaho Broadband Grant Application Line 2 'Eligible Projects', Item A, Subcategory i. that this grant must be used for an infrastructure investment related to broadband as defined by the FCC: speeds of 25mbps download and 3mbps upload. According to Form 477 of the FCC's broadband map locate at <a href="broadbandmap.fcc.gov">broadbandmap.fcc.gov</a> FyberCom is currently servicing all of the proposed grant area with more than the minimum speeds required by this grant.

According to the State of Idaho Broadband Grant Application Line 2 'Eligible Projects', Item A, Subcategory iii. that the proposed grant must be for a project that serves an under-built area and does not overbuild existing broadband service. FyberCom has already built out the proposed area with its private funds. It has spent over several years building the infrastructure in the proposed area. According the FCC data there are 4 other providers who also cover this are at the minimum listed speeds by the FCC. This proposed grant is an overbuild of the Archer area. See Form 477 data below that covers each census block in the preposed grant area.

## 477 Form Data

FRN: 0023650807 FyberCom LLC

Proposed Census Blocks: 160659505001016, 160659505001019, 160659505001020, 160659505001023, 160659505001029, 160659505001030, 160659505001031, 160659505001064, 160659505001066, 160659505001063

Here is FyberCom's 477 Form data providing proof of the serviced area:

# Archer ID FBD

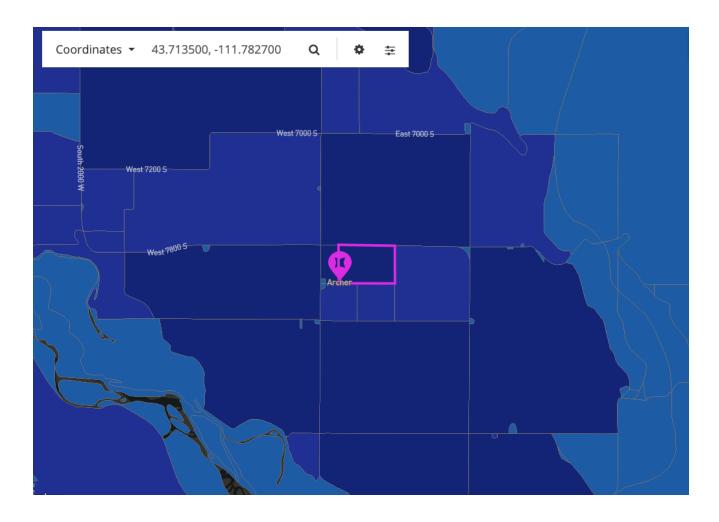
160659505001029	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160659505001064	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160659505001031	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160659505001019	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160659505001023	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160659505001016	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160659505001063	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160659505001066	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160659505001020	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160659505001030	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1

# **Picture Data**

Picture 1: LDS Archer Church 201 W 8000 S, 800 feet from the Archer Fire Station

SPEED TEST		×
SELECT DESTINATION IP	specify manually ∨ 👉	USER PASSWORD
REMOTE WEB PORT  DIRECTION  DURATION	B0  Duplex   30 seconds	REMEMBER CREDENTIALS FOR THIS SESSION START
		FINISHED 00:00:000
Mbps		6.41 ms  Tx  26.35 Mbps  max 0.00 Mbps  RX
	c 20 sec	101.34 Mbps max 0.00 Mbps

Picture 2: FyberCom's FCC Broadband Map Data



Picture 2: FyberCom's FCC Broadband Map Data Cont.

# **All Providers Reporting Service**

æ



Census block ID: 160659505001030

## **Number of Fixed Residential Broadband Providers**



## Broadband



Technology ADSL, Cable, Fiber, Fixed Wireless, Satellite, Other

Speed ≥ 25/3 Mbps

Date June 2019 (latest public release)

Provider	Tech	Down ▼ (Mbps)	Up (Mbps)
CenturyLink, Inc.	ADSL	80	10
CenturyLink, Inc.	Fiber	40	5
• Fybercom LLC	Fixed Wireless	40	10
♥ ViaSat, Inc.	Satellite	35	3
Safelink Internet	Fixed Wireless	25	5
Hughes Network Systems, LLC	Satellite	25	3
JAB Wireless, Inc.	Fixed Wireless	15	15
□ VSAT Systems, LLC	Satellite	2	1.3

Picture 3: FyberCom current customer base with capabilities of 40 x 10Mbps.



# FyberCom LLC



# Broadband Grant Challenge

Prepared by: George Swanson

July 23, 2020

### BASIS OF CHALLENGE

#### **Overview**

FyberCom is challenging grant application APP-004179. FyberCom will be challenging the criteria of the application and demonstrate how it is not met. FyberCom has a significant financial investment in building and expanding the broadband infrastructure in the Roberts area. On application APP-004179 its also claimed that Fybercom only has a tower on the butte, please refer to pictures 3 and 5 for tower location and actual tower site in Roberts city limits.

#### **Availability of Service**

FyberCom is servicing this area currently with 90% of the proposed area covered by its Fixed Wireless products and services with  $100 \times 10$ Mbps. FyberCom currently services 63% of the businesses and residences in the proposed area with its  $40 \times 10$ Mbps product. Refer to picture 3 and 4 for current data on FyberCom's availability of service. Gigabit service is available upon request.

#### **Current Served**

Currently 63% of residents and businesses are serviced with 40 x 10Mbps product in the proposed grant area. FyberCom is also serving Roberts City Building with 100 x 100Mbps service.

#### **Criteria of Application**

According to the State of Idaho Broadband Grant Application Line 2 'Eligible Projects', Item A, Subcategory i. that this grant must be used for an infrastructure investment related to broadband as defined by the FCC: speeds of 25mbps download and 3mbps upload. According to Form 477 of the FCC's broadband map locate at <a href="mailto:broadbandmap.fcc.gov">broadbandmap.fcc.gov</a> FyberCom is currently servicing all of the proposed grant area with more than the minimum speeds required by this grant.

According to the State of Idaho Broadband Grant Application Line 2 'Eligible Projects', Item A, Subcategory iii. that the proposed grant must be for a project that serves an under-built area and does not overbuild existing broadband service. FyberCom has already built out the proposed area with its private funds. It has spent over several years building the infrastructure in the proposed area. According the FCC data there are 4 other providers who also cover this area. This proposed grant is an overbuild of the Roberts area. See Form 477 data below that covers each census block in the preposed grant area.

#### 477 Form Data

FRN: 0023650807 FyberCom LLC

Proposed Census Blocks: 160519601001172, 160519601001171, 160519601001171, 160519601001186, 160519601001189, 160519601001199, 160519601001203, 160519601001211, 160519601001210, 160519601001216, 160519601001212, 160519601001247, 160519601001246, 160519601001251, 160519601001260

Here is FyberCom's 477 Form data providing proof of the serviced area:

### Roberts FBD Data

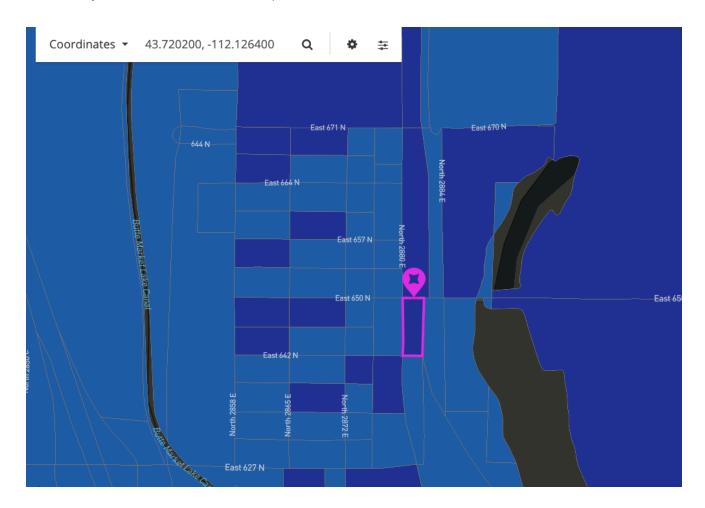
160519601001172	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160519601001210	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160519601001189	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160519601001216	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160519601001251	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160519601001199	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160519601001247	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160519601001260	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160519601001211	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160519601001203	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160519601001171	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160519601001246	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160519601001212	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160519601001186	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160519601001186	FYBERCOM LLC	50	1	1000	1000	1

### **Picture Data**

Picture 1: Roberts City Office Speed Test, Address: 647 2872 E



Picture 2: FyberCom's FCC Broadband Map Data



Picture 2: FyberCom's FCC Broadband Map Data Cont.

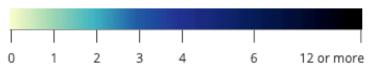
### **All Providers Reporting Service**

જ



Census block ID: 160519601001216

### **Number of Fixed Residential Broadband Providers**



### Broadband



Technology ADSL, Cable, Fiber, Fixed Wireless, Satellite, Other

Speed ≥ 25/3 Mbps

Date June 2019 (latest public release)

Provider	Tech	Down ▼ (Mbps)	<b>Up</b> (Mbps)
CenturyLink, Inc.	ADSL	40	2
■ Fybercom LLC	Fixed Wireless	40	10
♥ ViaSat, Inc.	Satellite	35	3
Safelink Internet	Fixed Wireless	25	5
<ul><li>Hughes Network Systems, LLC</li></ul>	Satellite	25	3
■ VSAT Systems, LLC	Satellite	2	1.3

Picture 3: FyberCom current customer base with capabilities of 40 x 10Mbps.



Picture 4: FyberCom coverage (Shaded Blue).



Picture 5: FyberCom's Roberts Tower, in city limits.



Picture 6: Roberts LDS Church Speed Test, Address: 663 N 2858 E



### **Final Remarks**

FyberCom has been providing broadband to Roberts ID since 2014. Fybercom is continuing to invest private funds to buildout the proposed grant area. Fybercom also is in the planning stage of running fiber optics inside the Roberts city limits. This area is NOT underserved and does NOT meet the grant criteria.

### **Magaly Carrillo**

**From:** Epley, Jessica < jessica.epley@ziply.com>

**Sent:** Friday, July 24, 2020 12:33 PM

**To:** COM Broadband **Subject:** Ziply Fiber Challenges

Attachments: Idaho Grant review 7 24 2020.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

#### Idaho Commerce Broadband Office:

In regards to the recent applications for grants under the allocation by CFAC for rural broadband deployment, Ziply Fiber challenges to-certain applications on the grounds that the applications cover locations that are currently being served with broadband service. The CFAC can achieve its goal of expanding broadband services in the State by awarding grants for areas that are not currently served. Attached please find maps for each of the challenged are which depict current service availability with speeds for each location covered by a proposal subject to this challenge. We request that the following applications be withdrawn by the applicants or rejected for consideration:

Applicant	Location	Details	
Boundary County	Bonners Ferry and surrounding area	At present, Ziply Fiber provides service at speeds as indicated o	
Bonner County	Coburn	At present, Ziply Fiber provides service at speeds as indicated o through the FCC Connect America Fund II, is in process of deplo broadband north of the proposed area.	
Boundary County	Copeland	Ziply Fiber, through the FCC Connect America Fund II, is in proceedibles broadband throughout Copeland. This project will be com	
Boundary County	Naples	At present, Ziply Fiber provides service at speeds as indicated o	
Boundary County	Eastport	Ziply Fiber, through the FCC Connect America Fund II, is in proceedibles broadband throughout Eastport. This project will be comp	
City of Osburn	Osburn	At present, Ziply Fiber provides service at speeds as indicated o Ziply Fiber is in process of engineering network expansions in O existing network.	
City of Potlatch	Potlatch	At present, Ziply Fiber provides service at speeds as indicat Ziply Fiber is in process of engineering network expansions existing network.	
City of Wallace	Wallace	At present, Ziply Fiber provides service at speeds as indicated o Ziply Fiber is in process of engineering network expansions in Wexisting network.	

Sincerely,

Jessica Epley
Regulatory & External Affairs Director
(M) (503) 431-0458 | jessica.epley@ziply.com

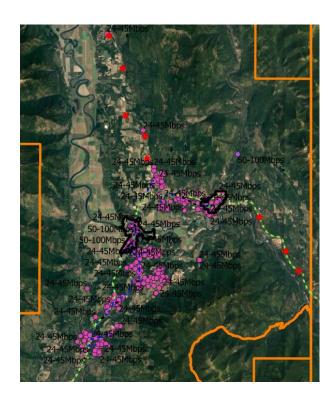


## Bonners Ferry Area



Boundary County O'Callaghans Project Proposed Service Area

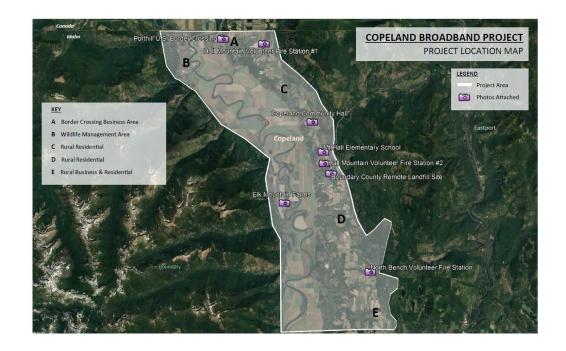




Existing coverage

# Copeland







 Pending 2020
 CAF site on the North

# Copeland



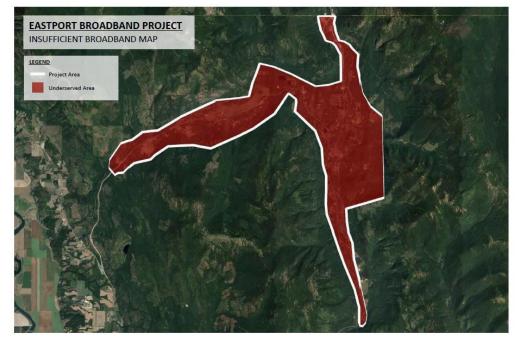


 Pending 2020
 CAF site on the North

## **Eastport**





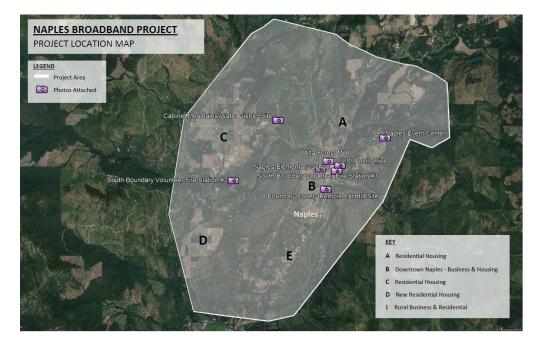


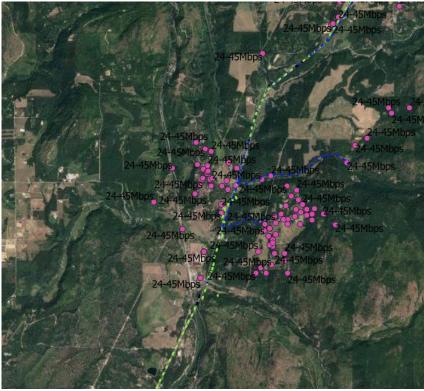


Pending 2020 CAF site on the North

## Naples



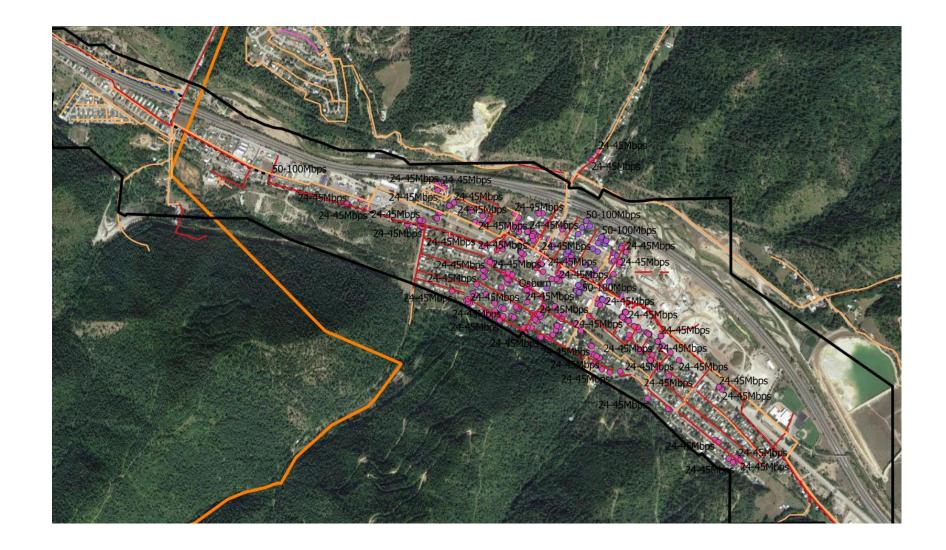




Existing coverage

## Osburn

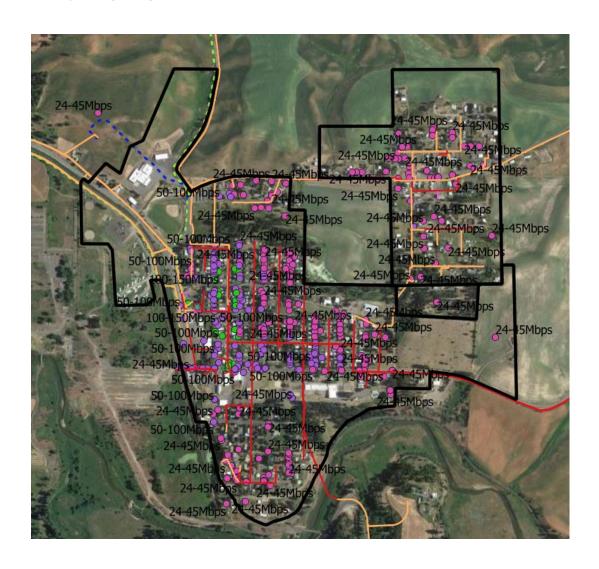




- Existing coverage
- Probable build

## Potlatch



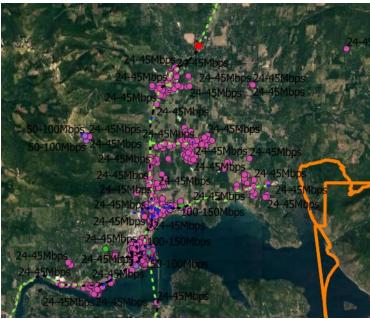


- Existing coverage
- Probable build

# Sandpoint Area







- Largely covered
- Pending 2020
   CAF site on the North

## Wallace





- Current coverage
- Probable build

### **Magaly Carrillo**

From: jfrawley@sm-email.com
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 1:10 PM

To: COM Broadband

**Subject:** Elk River, Idaho broadband grant - CHALLENGE APP-004147

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

Myself Jason Frawley, representing my company as President of Leader Communications LLC, an Idaho based internet service provider, would like to contest/challenge the grant application APP-004147.

I do not agree with the statement in the submission saying that 50% of the population does not have access to high speed internet, in fact almost all of town has existing service, but it's in need of a major face lift. The resources are already there and actually the existing backhauls into Elk River were already paid for by previous grant money several years ago and it has been maintained and upgraded as needed. The real issue is how the service is being distributed in and around Elk River, very poorly with outdated equipment.

I am out of POCKET building a wireless network in Elk river as of next week, it's been in the works for 2 years and I finally had enough of the down times etc.

Not to mention the capability to increase the capacity on an existing site for cellular service is already there. By the way the tower is over loaded and no structural inspections have been passed on to existing users of the site putting our lives in danger who currently lease space on the tower.

The existing cellular equipment on the butte can be upgraded just like any other cell site and I do not feel grant funds should pay for what should be considered routine upgrades/repairs.

There is no documentation or numbers issued on the grant for the monthly recurring cost, another bad thing for town as they have no idea what they will be charged.

It's not that I do not want Elk river to have a great service, I am just saying we are already starting construction on it. Not to mention, what level of customer service will you get, how will installs be scheduled? The time line proposed is not realistic especially for the customer install side.

I am against the current grant application, numbers do not jive and there are 2 companies (including myself/Leader Comm) that are already working on a plan and a resolution to the connectivity issues in Elk River and our construction is starting on Tues July 28, 2020.

There are already actions being taken to provide these services to the area, without using government money and the tax payers, that will provide similar services requested. Also we will reveal our monthly recurring costs so it is of no surprise to the town, where as the OTHER company will not and has not disclosed any of that information!

The only location that is going to be tricky and costly is the tower for CPTPA, is it possible to amend the application or add us as a service provider and then the city get to choose which provider they prefer to use?

I feel the community may be misled with the information submitted by Inland Cellular and what they are claiming they will deliver to each user and suspect the funds will primarily be used to upgrade their already existing equipment which should be paid for by them as it is routine and part of business to maintain and upgrade your cell sites.

If you would like to speak further on the matter please contact me any time,

Jason Frawley President Leader Communications LLC 208-305-3290 From: <u>jfrawley@sm-email.com</u>

To: <u>Eric Forsch</u>

Subject: RE: Challenge Received- Elk River

Date: Friday, July 24, 2020 3:11:30 PM

With exception those speeds are not readily available on their existing infrastructure but the bandwidth is available and if the access points are replaced, upgraded etc they can deliver those speeds. I will have 25 mbps starting Tues to at least 1 client.

Jason Frawley

**From:** noreply@salesforce.com <noreply@salesforce.com> **On Behalf Of** Eric Forsch

**Sent:** Friday, July 24, 2020 2:08 PM

To: jfrawley@sm-email.com

Subject: Challenge Received- Elk River



State of Idaho Public Broadband Grant Application: Households - APP-004147

Dear Jason Frawley,

The Idaho Department of Commerce ("Department") has received your challenge submission regarding Idaho Broadband Grant #APP-004147 within the State of Idaho Public Broadband Grant Application: Households. Your challenge asserts that the proposed project is not valid because:

More than 50% of Households have access to broadband speeds in project area.

As outlined in the State of Idaho Public Broadband Grant Application: Households application, the Department will notify the applicant of the challenge and allow them three business days to take one of the following actions:

- 1. Submit a response to the challenge containing specific evidence that the applicant meets the challenged criteria.
- 2. Modify the application to meet the criteria; or
- 3. Withdraw the application.

Once the Department receives and reviews the application, the challenge, the applicant's response, if provided, and additional information, if any, the Director of the Department will issue a written determination concerning the challenge. Such determination shall be final and binding upon the applicant and the challenger.

Sincerely,

Eric Forsch | Broadband Development Manager

Idaho Commerce

700 W State Street, Boise, Idaho 83702

Office: 208.287.3153 Cell: 208.914.1907

broadband@commerce.idaho.gov

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210 E. EARLL DRIVE 6TH FLOOR PHOENIX, AZ 85012 PH: 602-364-6121 ERIC.LARDY@CABLEONE.BIZ

ERIC M. LARDY SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT OPERATIONS AND INTEGRATION

Delivery vie email only: <a href="mailto:broadband@commerce.idaho.gov">broadband@commerce.idaho.gov</a>

July 24, 2020

Tom Kealey, Director Idaho Dept of Commerce Broadband Office 700 W State Street Boise, ID 83702

Re: Sparklight Challenges to Idaho Broadband Grant Program Applications

Dear Director Kealey:

The State of Idaho Broadband Grants Program Guidelines for 1) Households; and 2) Public Safety and Local Government projects invite "any eligible applicant, or any internet service provider qualified and able to provide the broadband service proposed" to enter a written challenge "identifying the criteria the application does not meet and provid[ing] a basis for the challenge." Cable One Inc., d.b.a Sparklight ("Sparklight"), an eligible applicant in this grant program, submits the following challenges to the application(s) of certain Idaho municipalities identifying criteria why the applications fail to meet the stated guidelines, and providing further information to illustrate Sparklight's challenges.

Sparklight remains available to provide the Department additional information as necessary.

Sincerely,

Eric M. Lardy

Senior Vice President, Operations and Integration

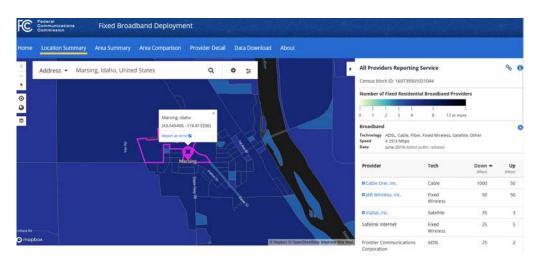
cc: Peter N. Witty, General Counsel

Patrick N. Caron, Assistant General Counsel

- I. Application Title Owyhee County Broadband to Households Critical Infrastructure Project 1 Murphy to Marsing. Households Grant Program.
  - 2. Application ID APP-004158
  - 3. Region -3
  - 4. Reason(s) Applicant is ineligible for funding:
    - a. Per the Household Grants Program Guidelines, projects in underbuilt areas are prohibited from "overbuild[ing] existing broadband service."
    - b. Underbuilt areas are "locations where less than 50% of the locations in the project area have access to broadband service [25Mbps down/3Mbps up]."
    - c. Sparklight has service in Marsing ID covering over 50% of the households.
  - 5. Maps showing Sparklight's coverage:
    - A. Sparklight Serviceability Map. Marsing, ID:



B. FCC Broadband Deployment Map, Marsing, ID:

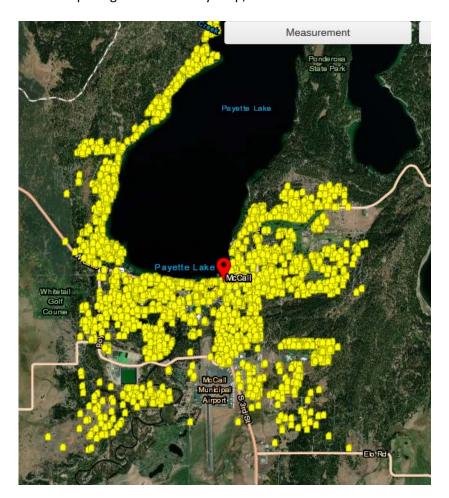


## II. 1. Application Title – RAPID McCall Broadband – Connecting Public Services Public Safety and Local Government Grant Program

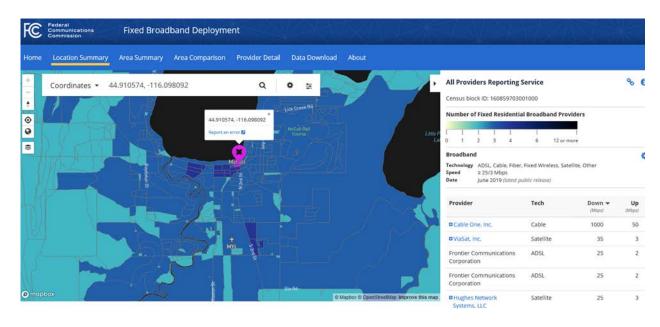
- 2. Application ID APP-004160
- 3. Region 3
- 4. Reason(s) Applicant is ineligible for funding: This project violates the following criteria of the Public Safety and Local Government Grant Program:

Per the Program Guidelines, the project "must be a project that does not overbuild existing broadband infrastructure at the required speeds to a local government facility for public safety and local governance." This area is well served by Sparklight, who currently has over 50 miles of active fiber backbone throughout the City of McCall. Sparklight fiber runs right in front of City Hall and other public buildings. This project would be a direct example of a municipality overbuilding in an area that currently offers fiber solutions with significant broadband speeds. By providing funding for a municipality to install fiber into an area that is already built with the intent to ultimately sell internet services in direct competition, does not follow the spirit or intent of this funding – which is to truly to reach the underserved in our communities.

- 5. Maps showing Sparklight's Coverage:
- A. Sparklight Serviceability Map, McCall ID:

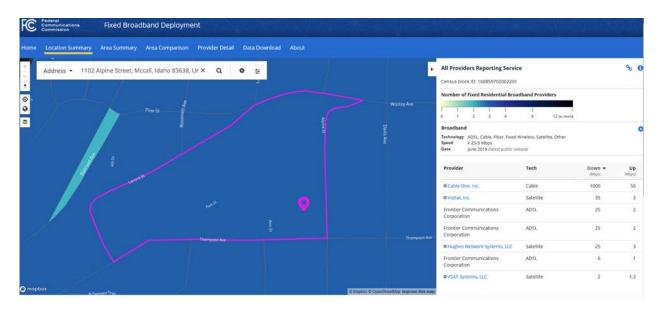


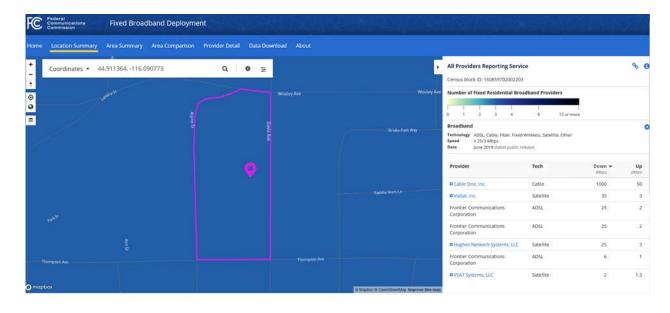
### B. FCC Broadband Deployments Map, McCall, ID:



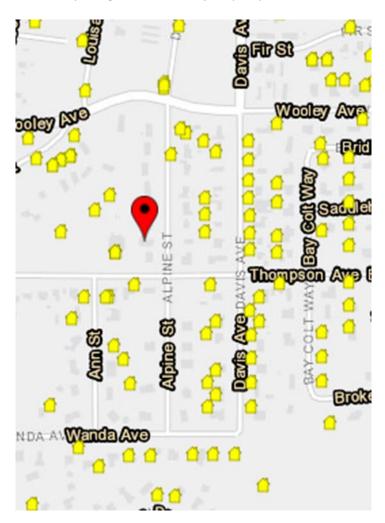
### III. 1. Application Title – RAPID McCall – Pilot Neighborhood: Demonstrating Fiber to the Home Households Grant Program

- 2. Application ID APP-004180
- 3. Region 3
- 4. Reason(s) Applicant is ineligible for funding: This project violates two criteria of the Households Grant Program:
  - a. Pursuant to the Program Guidelines, funding is available for projects which serve underbuilt areas and do not overbuild existing broadband service. Underbuilt areas are defined as locations where less than 50% of households in the project area have access to broadband service." This project area is well served by Sparklight, serving 100% of the homes in this test area with broadband service of 1 gig speed. This would be a direct example of a municipality overbuilding in an area that currently offers significant broadband speeds. Sparklight's homes passed map and the FCC Broadband Deployment Map for McCall are included below. Also included is a screen shot of Sparklight's billing system showing that all products—including 1 gig broadband service—are available at 1102 Alpine St. McCall (the same residence that included a letter of support for the municipal broadband build in the grant application).
  - b. Additionally, the Guidelines provide that the project must "include only new broadband service to be installed, owned and operated by for-profit companies or membership owned cooperative corporations as defined in Idaho Code Title 30, Chapter 30 that provide broadband services to the public." The RAPID McCall project is owned and operated by the City of McCall, hence the municipality is not eligible for this grant funding because it is not a for-profit company as required in the Program Guidelines.
- 5. Maps and information indicating Sparklight coverage:
- A. FCC Broadband Deployment Map, Alpine St. and Davis Ave, McCall, ID:



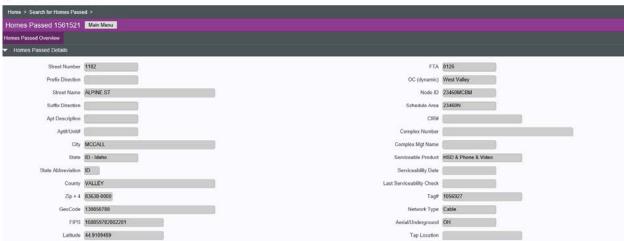


B. Sparklight Serviceability Map, Alpine St and Davis Ave, McCall, ID:



C. Sparklight Billing system screen shot – 1102 Alpine St. McCall, ID:

### /Sparklight

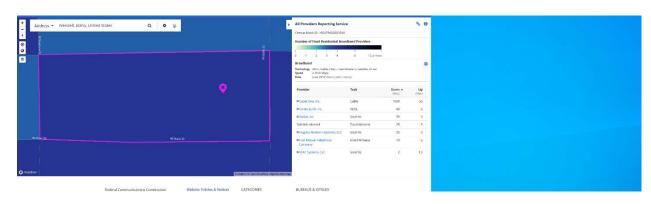


## VI. 1. Application Title – City of Wendell Households Grant Program

- 2. Application ID: App-004185
- 3. Region 4
- 4. Reason(s) Applicant is ineligible for funding:
  - a. Per the Household Grants Program Guidelines, projects in underbuilt areas are prohibited from "overbuild[ing] existing broadband service."
  - b. Underbuilt areas are "locations where less than 50% of the locations in the project area have access to broadband service [25Mbps down/3Mbps up]."
  - c. Sparklight has service in Wendell ID covering over 50% of the households.
- 5. Maps identifying Sparklight Coverage:
- A. Sparklight Homes passed, Wendell Idaho:

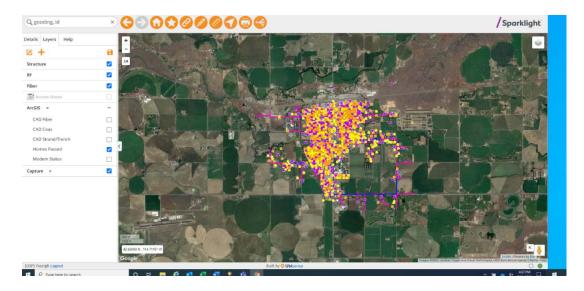


B. FCC Broadband Deployment Map, Wendell Idaho:

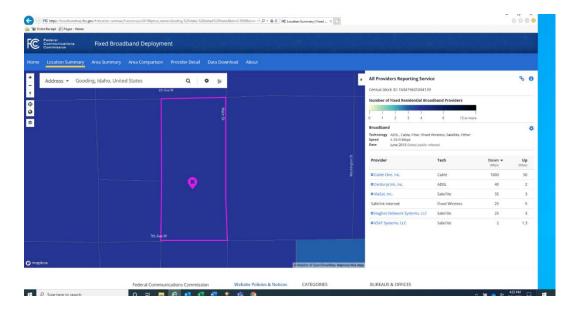


## V. 1. Application Title – Gooding County Broadband Project 2020 - Household Household Grant Program

- 2. Application ID: App-004291
- 3. Region 4
- 4. Reason(s) Applicant is ineligible for funding:
  - a. Per the Household Grants Program Guidelines, projects in underbuilt areas are prohibited from "overbuild[ing] existing broadband service."
  - b. Underbuilt areas are "locations where less than 50% of the locations in the project area have access to broadband service [25Mbps down/3Mbps up]."
  - c. Sparklight has service in Gooding, ID covering over 50% of the households.
- 5. Maps identifying Sparklight Coverage:
- A. Sparklight, Gooding Idaho homes passed:

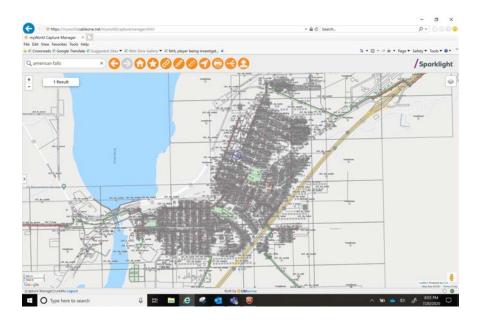


B. FCC Broadband Deployment Map, Gooding, Idaho:

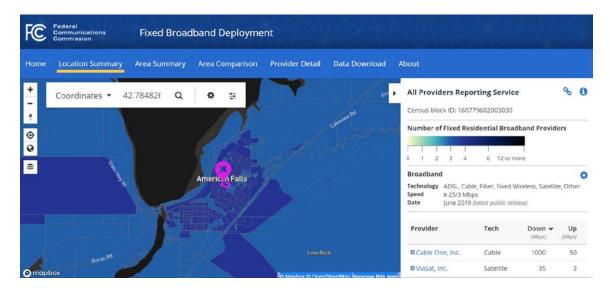


### VI. 1. Application Title – American Falls City Wide Wifi Household Grant Program

- 2. Application ID: App-004262
- 3. Region 5
- 4. Reason(s) Applicant is ineligible for funding:
  - a. Per the Household Grants Program Guidelines, projects in underbuilt areas are prohibited from "overbuild[ing] existing broadband service."
  - b. Underbuilt areas are "locations where less than 50% of the locations in the project area have access to broadband service [25Mbps down/3Mbps up]."
  - c. Sparklight has service in American Falls, ID covering over 50% of the households.
- 5. Maps identifying Sparklight Coverage:
- A. Sparklight Coverage Map, American Falls, Idaho:

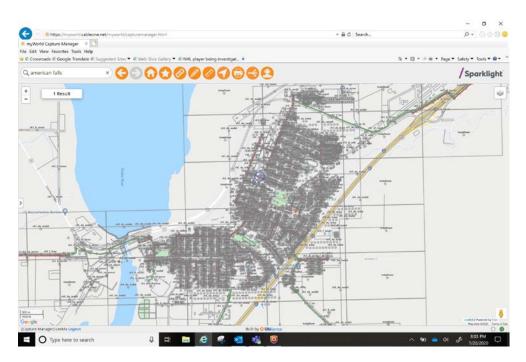


B. FCC Broadband Deployment Map, American Falls Idaho:

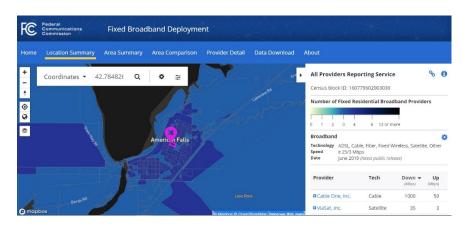


## VII. 1. Application Title – American Falls Expanded Wifi Public Safety and Local Government Grant Program

- 2. Application ID: App-004292
- 3. Region 5
- 4. Reason(s) Applicant is ineligible for funding:
  - a. Per Public Safety and Local Government Grant Program Guidelines, the project "must be a project that does not overbuild existing broadband infrastructure at the required speeds to a local government facility for public safety and local governance."
  - b. American Falls states that the project will "expand the WIFI service to the edge of all school property boundaries and beyond."
  - c. Schools in American Falls presently have Gig capable service provided by Sparklight.
- 5. Maps identifying Sparklight Coverage:
- A. Sparklight Coverage Map, American Falls Idaho:

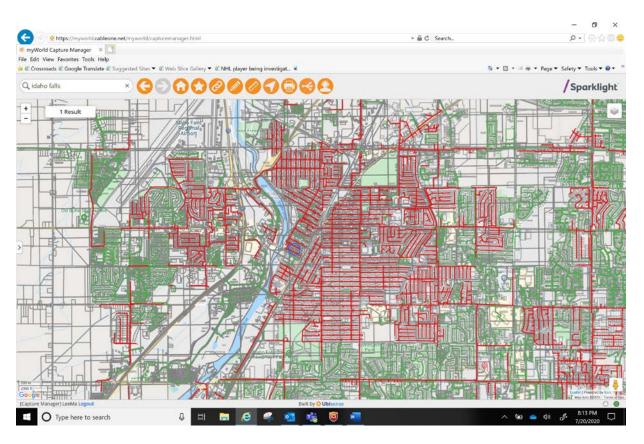


B. FCC Broadband Deployment Map, American Falls Idaho:



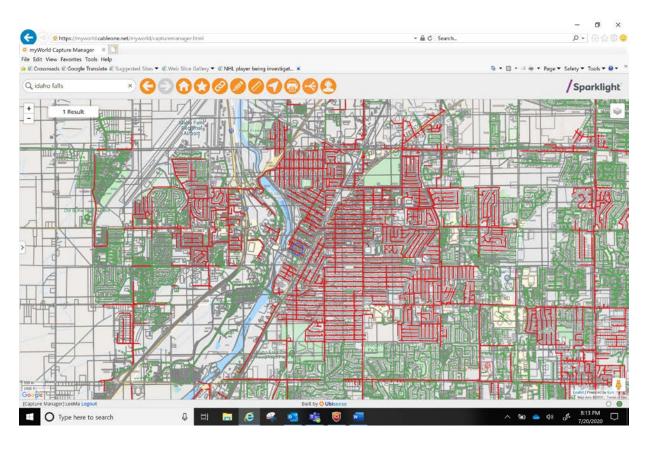
## VIII. 1. Application Title – IFF Project 1 (Idaho Falls Fiber Network, Idaho Falls, ID) Public Safety and Local Government Grant Program

- 2. Application ID: App-004305
- 3. Region 6
- 4. Reason(s) Applicant is ineligible for funding:
  - a. Per Public Safety and Local Government Grant Program Guidelines, the project "must be a project that does not overbuild existing broadband infrastructure at the required speeds to a local government facility for public safety and local governance."
  - b. Idaho Falls characterizes this as an application for Public Safety/Local Government funding, but states in its application that it will use the funding to build fiber to the home to 2200 residential customers—this application should be treated under the Household grant program criteria.
  - c. Per the Household Grants Program Guidelines, projects in underbuilt areas are prohibited from "overbuild[ing] existing broadband service."
  - d. Sparklight provides Broadband coverage to over 50% of households in the project area.
  - e. Idaho Falls proposes to provide service to Melaleuca Field, which is a current customer of Sparklight with service capable of 1 Gig symmetrical.
- 5. Maps identifying Sparklight Coverage:
- A. Sparklight Coverage Map, Idaho Falls, ID:

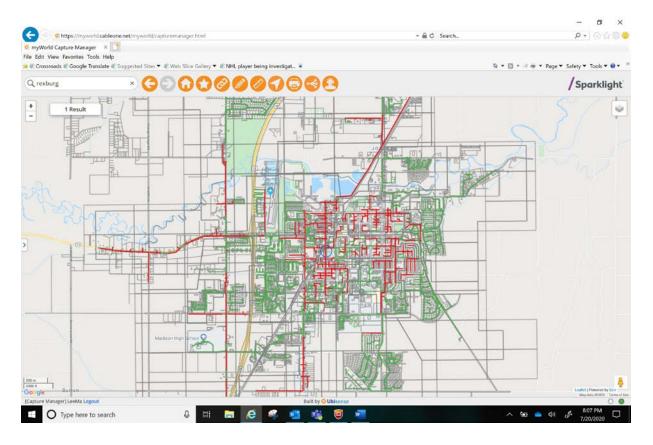


# IX. 1. Application Title – IFF Project 1 (Idaho Falls, Idaho) Public Safety and Local Government Grant Program

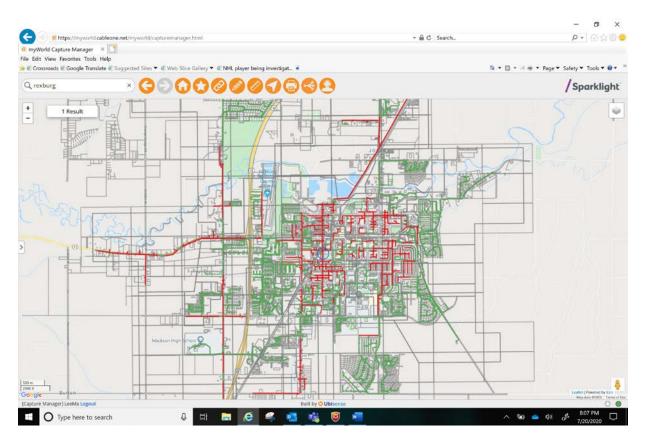
- 2. Application ID: App-004311
- 3. Region 6
- 4. Reason(s) Applicant is ineligible for funding:
  - a. Per Public Safety and Local Government Grant Program Guidelines, the project "must be a project that does not overbuild existing broadband infrastructure at the required speeds to a local government facility for public safety and local governance."
  - b. Idaho Falls characterizes this as an application for Public Safety/Local Government funding, but states in its application that it will use the funding to accommodate a minimum of 100 residential customers—this application should be treated under the Household grant program criteria.
  - c. Per the Household Grants Program Guidelines, projects in underbuilt areas are prohibited from "overbuild[ing] existing broadband service."
  - d. Sparklight provides Broadband coverage to over 50% of households in the project area.
  - Idaho Falls propose to provide service to the Idaho Falls Library, which is a former customer of Sparklight which can be provided with service capable of 1 Gig symmetrical.
- 5. Maps identifying Sparklight Coverage:
- A. Sparklight Coverage Map of Idaho Falls, ID:



- X. 1. Application Title Madison County Public Safety and Local Government CARES Act Grant.
  Public Safety and Local Government Grant Program
  - 2. Application ID: App-00275
  - 3. Region 6
  - 4. Reason(s) Applicant is ineligible for funding:
    - a. Per Public Safety and Local Government Grant Program Guidelines, the project "must be a project that does not overbuild existing broadband infrastructure at the required speeds to a local government facility for public safety and local governance."
    - b. Project would overbuild existing broadband infrastructure at the required speeds to a local government facility.
    - c. All Madison County buildings in Rexburg can be serviced by Sparklight at the required speeds. Currently the County Office, the County Sheriff's Office, the County Fire Office, and the Madison County Hospital are Sparklight customers.
  - 5. Maps identifying Sparklight Coverage:
  - A. Sparklight Coverage Map of Rexburg, ID:



- XI. 1. Application Title Rexburg Public Safety and Local Government Broadband Project.
  Public Safety and Local Government Grant Program
  - 2. Application ID: App-004138
  - 3. Region 6
  - 4. Reason(s) Applicant is ineligible for funding:
    - a. Per Public Safety and Local Government Grant Program Guidelines, the project "must be a project that does not overbuild existing broadband infrastructure at the required speeds to a local government facility for public safety and local governance."
    - b. Project would overbuild existing broadband infrastructure at the required speeds to a local government facility.
    - c. Currently City Hall, the City Police Department and the City Fire Department are Sparklight customers.
  - 5. Maps identifying Sparklight Coverage:
  - A. Sparklight Coverage Map of Rexburg, ID:



# **Magaly Carrillo**

From: Daniel Parrish <danielp@directcom.com> Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 3:27 PM COM Broadband To: Grant Application Challenge app-4262 **Subject: Attachments:** AF area fiber map.PNG; AF City fiber map.PNG; American falls School district app-4262.docx **Follow Up Flag:** Follow up Flag Status: Flagged Attached is our formal Grant request challenge and associated maps. Thank you for your time and efforts! Thank you, Daniel J. Parrish Sales Manager danielp@directcom.com (208)406-3503 × × ×



# 130 South Main Street – Rockland, Id – 83271 Directcom.com

In the American Falls School district's application - APP- 004262 they were missing some important details that would be needed for your scoring criteria.

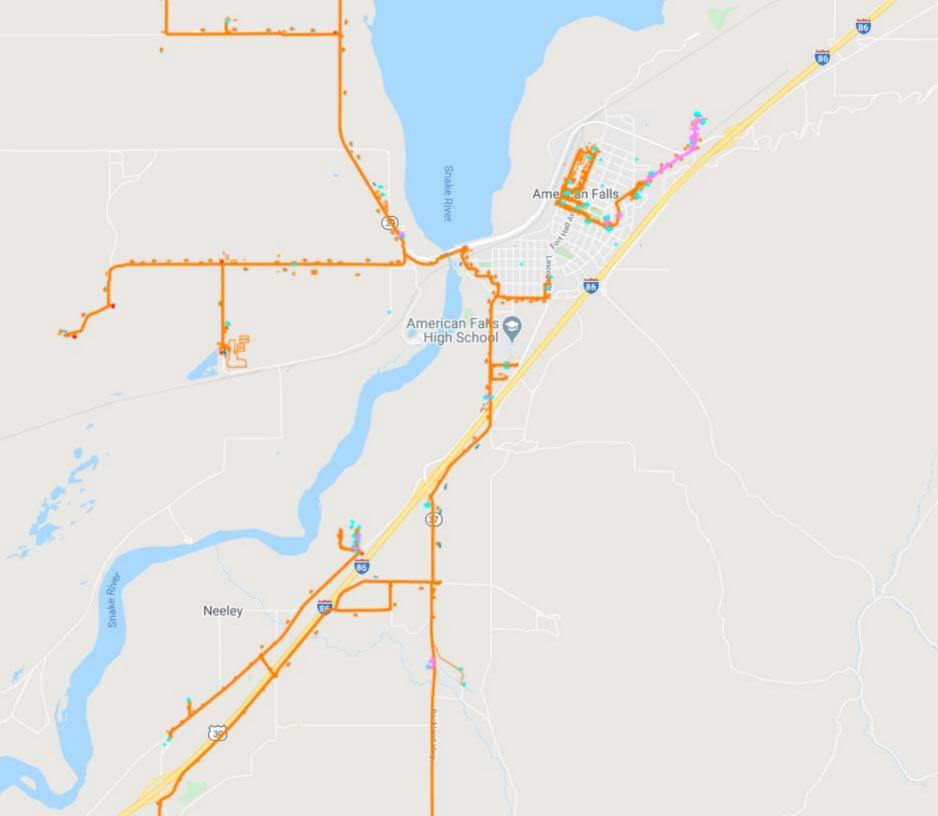
The application does not meet the stated criteria: 50% of households are currently in an unserved area and 50% of households are in an underserved area.

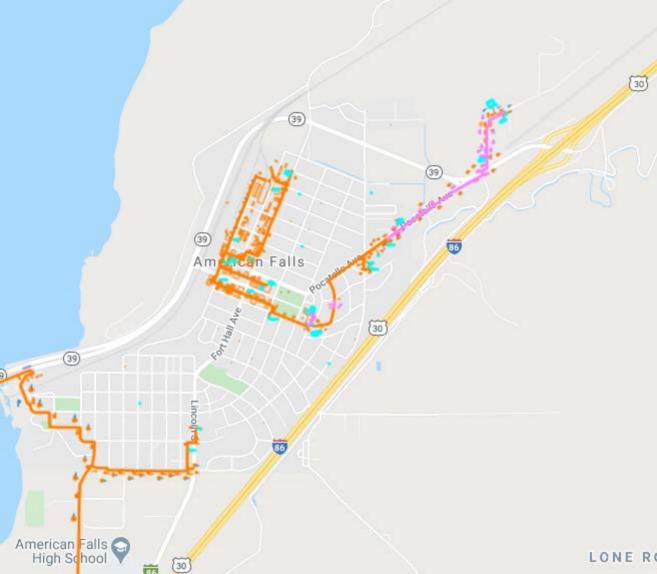
Direct Communications is a current Fiber optic Broadband provider in the American Falls area. Direct has been providing fiber to the premise within American Falls and surrounding areas for many years. Direct currently provides Fiber Optic broadband internet services ranging from 50 meg symmetrical to a gig symmetrical speed. Direct is currently, actively expanding, and growing our footprint within the stated area of the Schools application. In fact, all community facilities that they list as being "underserved & unserved" area currently fed by a fiber optic internet provider. Many of them are service Direct Communications including American Falls Public Library, Power County Court House, American Falls City Hall, & Power County Hospital. In addition, Sparklight & Century Link Internet have been long-standing Internet Service Provider for the American Falls area and continues to upgrade equipment to service customers in the community.

Attached is a copy of our fiber optic distribution lines. They do not include many of the individual drop lines.

There are four current wireline providers in the area and approval of American Falls School District's application would only subsidize an overbuild of the 4 current providers in the area.

Respectfully,
Daniel J. Parrish
Residential Sales Manager
Direct Communications





# **Magaly Carrillo**

From: Daniel Parrish <danielp@directcom.com> Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 3:56 PM To: **COM Broadband Subject:** Broadband grant request app-004275 challenge **Attachments:** APP-00427.docx; Madison County Fiber Map.PNG; Rexburg city fiber map.PNG **Follow Up Flag:** Follow up Flag Status: Flagged Attached is our formal challenge to grant request APP-004275 and associated maps. Thank you, Daniel J. Parrish Sales Manager danielp@directcom.com (208)406-3503 × × ×



In the Madison County application APP- 004275 they were missing some important details that would be needed for your scoring criteria and should in fact make this grant application ineligible.

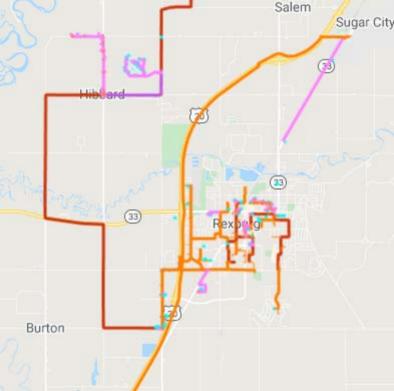
The application does not meet the stated criteria: "Be a project that does not overbuild existing broadband infrastructure at the required speeds"

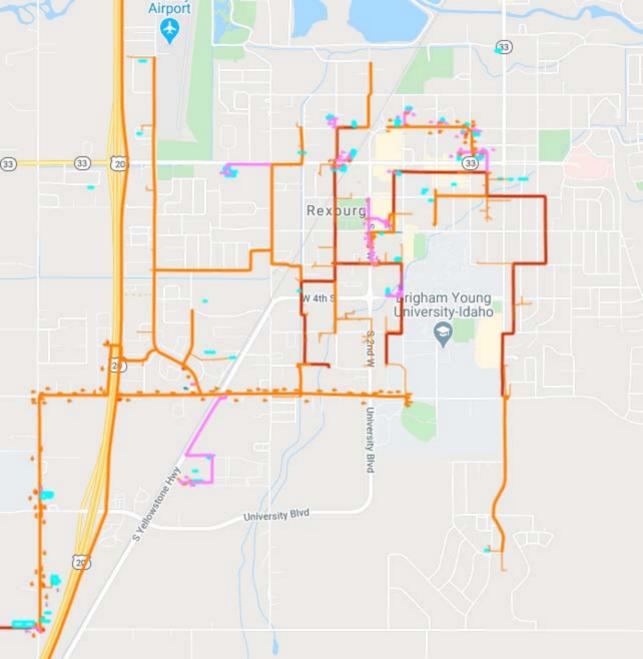
Optix Media is a current Fiber optic Broadband provider in Madison County and surrounding areas. Optix has been providing fiber to the premise within Madison County and surrounding areas for many years. Optix currently provides Fiber Optic broadband internet services ranging from 50 meg symmetrical to a gig symmetrical speed in Madison County. In the City of Rexburg alone Optix currently has over 18,000 homes and apartment units connected plus roughly 40 commercial services. Optix is currently, actively expanding, and growing our footprint within the stated area of the County's application. In fact, most of the community facilities that they list as being "underserved & unserved" could currently be fed by a fiber optic internet provider. In addition, there are several other broadband service providers within their proposed grant area. Blackfoot Telecom, Silver Star Communications, Syringa Networks, and Direct Communications all have fully fiber optic networks within the proposed areas. Sparklight and Century Link both offer wireline broadband services. There are also several wireless companies operating within the proposed service areas.

Attached is a copy of our fiber optic distribution lines. They do not include many of the individual drop lines. You will see that Optix has the ability to provide broadband service to almost all of the designated community facilities. You will also see that we have an extensive fiber optic broadband network within the designated grant area.

There are at least 7 current broadband providers in the area and approval of Madison County's application would only subsidize an overbuild of the current providers in the area.

Respectfully,
Daniel J. Parrish
Residential Sales Manager
Optix Media





# **Magaly Carrillo**

From: Daniel Parrish <danielp@directcom.com>

**Sent:** Friday, July 24, 2020 4:03 PM

To: COM Broadband

**Subject:** Broadband grant request APP-004138 challenge

**Attachments:** Rexburg city fiber map.PNG; Madison County Fiber Map.PNG; app-004138.docx

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

Attached is our formal challenge to grant request APP-004138 and associated maps.

--

Thank you,

Daniel J. Parrish Sales Manager <u>danielp@directcom.com</u> (208)406-3503

×	×
×	



In the Rexburg application APP-004138 they were missing some important details that would be needed for your scoring criteria and should in fact make this grant application ineligible.

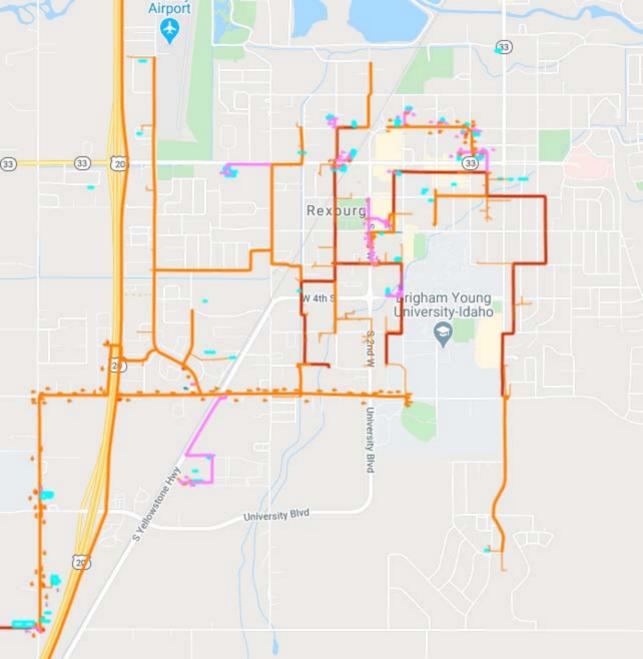
The application does not meet the stated criteria: "Be a project that does not overbuild existing broadband infrastructure at the required speeds"

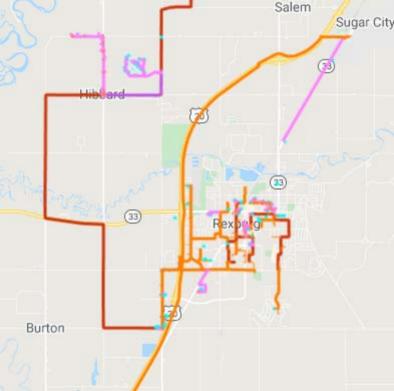
Optix Media is a current Fiber optic Broadband provider in Rexburg and surrounding areas. Optix has been providing fiber to the premise within Rexburg and surrounding areas for many years. Optix currently provides Fiber Optic broadband internet services ranging from 50 meg symmetrical to a gig symmetrical speed in Rexburg. In the City of Rexburg Optix currently has over 18,000 homes and apartment units connected plus roughly 40 commercial services. Optix is currently, actively expanding, and growing our footprint within the stated area of the city's application. In fact, almost all the community facilities that they list as being "underserved & unserved" could currently be provided a fiber optic broadband service from Optix Media. In addition, there are several other broadband service providers within their proposed grant area. Blackfoot Telecom, Silver Star Communications, Syringa Networks, and Direct Communications all have fully fiber optic networks within the proposed areas. Sparklight and Century Link both offer wireline broadband services. There are also several wireless companies operating within the proposed service areas.

Attached is a copy of our fiber optic distribution lines. They do not include many of the individual drop lines. You will see that Optix has the ability to provide broadband service to almost all of the designated community facilities. You will also see that we have an extensive fiber optic broadband network within the designated grant area.

There are at least 7 current broadband providers in the area and approval of Rexburg City's application would only subsidize an overbuild of the current providers in the area.

Respectfully,
Daniel J. Parrish
Residential Sales Manager
Optix Media







July 24, 2020

663 Main Ave E. Twin Falls ID 83301

We are writing the Idaho Dept of Commerce to challenge the application by the City of Dietrich, applicant ID APP-004248.

We are challenging the use of this grant to provide a service that is already available. Tekfinity is proposing to use almost three million dollars to bring a fiber optic line from Shoshone to Dietrich. Dietrich already has a high speed fiber optic line in their town.

Syringa Networks currently has a fiber optic line that enters city limits at the corner of Hwy 24 and 650 S. It follows 650 S to Main St. It then runs north on Main St to 7<sup>th</sup> St. It then heads east on 7<sup>th</sup> St to Dietrich Butte Rd. At Dietrich Butte Rd the fiber heads north till it exits city limits. The fiber line inside of city limits is approximately 2.05 miles long. Please see attached map provided by Syringa Networks.

Kevin Johnsen, Senior Account Executive at Syringa Networks (208-229-6100) states that connections of up to 10 Gigabytes per second are available in Dietrich. He has provided a quote to White Cloud for 1 Gigabyte per second for service in the City of Dietrich. Please see attached document. Understand this quote is proprietary information so the price is blacked out.

In the application the City of Dietrich states that the Dietrich School District is an underserved or unserved community facility. White Cloud currently is contracted with the Dietrich School District to provide a 150x150 symmetrical connection. A speedtest done by school I.T. consultant Don Van Kleeck on July 23, 2020 shows the Dietrich School District was being provided over 400x400 symmetrical connection. Please see attached contract and attached speedtest.

One question in the application states, "What is the average cost per household of new broadband service based on this project cost?". The answer provided is \$61.61. This is erroneous by thousands of dollars. The project cost is listed at

\$2,882,714.00, the number of households in Dietrich per the Dietrich Mayor Deborah Moon is 167. The correct answer is this project will cost \$17,261.76 per household to fund.

In the application, Tekfinity states that 100% of homes meet less than minimum grant requirements (25/3 Mbps). This is not true and is erroneous data. We are aware of at least two residents that currently have broadband service in Dietrich. The Dietrich Fire Chief Brandon Rasmussen has broadband service through White Cloud and on July 23, 2020 a speedtest showed speeds of 84x60. Mike Torganson is another resident of Dietrich with broadband service through White Cloud and speedtests on July 23, 2020 showed him receiving an average of 49x58. Please see attached documentation corroborating this.

Furthermore, Safelink reports they have 100% coverage of Dietrich with broadband speeds of 25/3. Please see attached coverage map from Safelink's website. Tekfinity themselves report to have 97.2% coverage of Dietrich. Tekfinity also has stated in a letter this week to the Idaho Dept of Commerce that it offers many plans and that they do have a plan that meets the minimum 25/3. Please see attached documentation from Broadbandnow.com and the attached letter from Tekfinity to the Idaho Dept of Commerce with their claim highlighted.

This application is a terrible bargain for the taxpayers of Idaho. With so many applicants in need applying for a small pool of money, it seems ludicrous to award this proposal which would take 8.22% of the \$35 million allocated to household grants by the Dept of Commerce to benefit 167 already served households. There are many more projects which could benefit many more underserved people in this state.

# **Proposal Acceptance Contract**

### **Dietrich School District 314**

RFP 2020-2021

Internet Services (ISP services), and Data Transmission

Award Date:

MARCH 26, 2020

#### Contract Terms:

- The minimum term of this agreement shall be one (1) year, with an option to extend for two additional one (1) year terms. Maximum duration of the agreement, including all extensions, shall be three (3) years.
- 2. Pricing is the gross monthly price for service before any E-rate discount is applied.
- 3. Monthly service fee includes cost of circuit, end site router, equipment maintenance, service monitoring, field support, and Service Level Agreement (SLA).
- 4. All service delivery prices are based on expected site readiness to receive the services including conduit, electrical capacity, backer board, and similar. In the event that the site walk-outs determine the need for site make-ready work, service may not be available until such work is completed by customer.
- 5. There are currently no governmental fees applicable to the broadband services requested. However, if such bees become applicable in the future, governmental fees including state, local and federal taxes, USF, E911 taxes/fees, and similar are in addition to the above rates. These fees will be charged at the applicable rates set by governmental entities and are subject to change over the life of the service contract.
- White Cloud broadband services are subject the rules and regulations of the Federal Communications Commission as are promulgated by said regulatory body that are pertinent to the subject matter of this agreement.
- 7. White Cloud will notify the customer once the circuit is installed and White Cloud is ready to turn up service. White Cloud will work with the customer to determine a mutually agreed upon date to turn up service. In the event of customer delays in turning up service, White Cloud reserves the right to start billing the customer for the service two weeks after White Cloud's notification that the service is ready to be turned up.
- 8. White Cloud acknowledges that if contract is signed outside of the e-rate contract signing window, White Cloud will disclose to the District, before soliciting the District's execution of the contract, that the contract is not eligible for E-rate funding.
- 9. Signed NON-COLLUSION AFFIDAVIT attached.





# **Contract Provider:**

White Cloud Technologies LLC (663 Main Ave. E. Twin Falls, ID 83301). Phone: (208) 736-2960

Shall provide Internet Services and data transmission to the Dietrich School District 314 (406 North Park Dietrich, Idaho 83324):

Contract internet speed: 150 Mbps x \$150/Mbps = 525.00

The parties below have executed this certificate by their authorized representatives.

**Dietrich School District 314** 

White Cloud Technologies LLC

Title: Oferations Manager

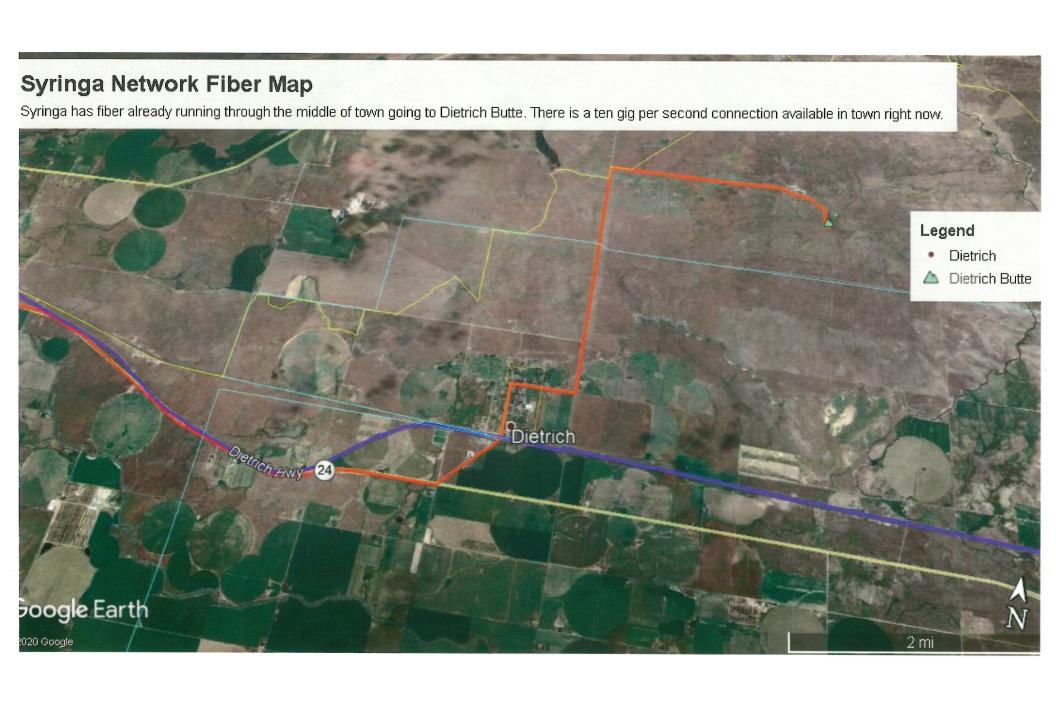
February 25, 2020

Confidential to

**Dietrich School District 314** RFP 2020-2021 Internet Access









CUSTOMER: White Cloud Communications, Inc.

DESCRIPTION: 1G Internet circuit - Dietrich

Quoted By: Kevin Johnsen

Date: 7/23/2020

Description	Term	QTY	Monthly (MRC) Insta	ill (NRC)
Dietrich (Syringa Vault SP-13868) ~ 1G Internet	60	1	3 400 52	Service Service
		Total:		

SYRINGA NETWORKS TERMS & CONDITIONS: All quotes valid for 60 days. To ensure service installation readiness at the customer premise, the following items, which are the customer's responsibility, may be required: dedicated power outlet, proper grounding, equipment space, and environmental conditions, i.e. temperature, humidity and dust control.

Our Network, Your Success.

www.SyringaNetworks.net

### 











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#### **LANGUAGES**

AR DE EN ES FR ID IT JA KO NL PL PT RU SV TH zh-Hans zh-Hant

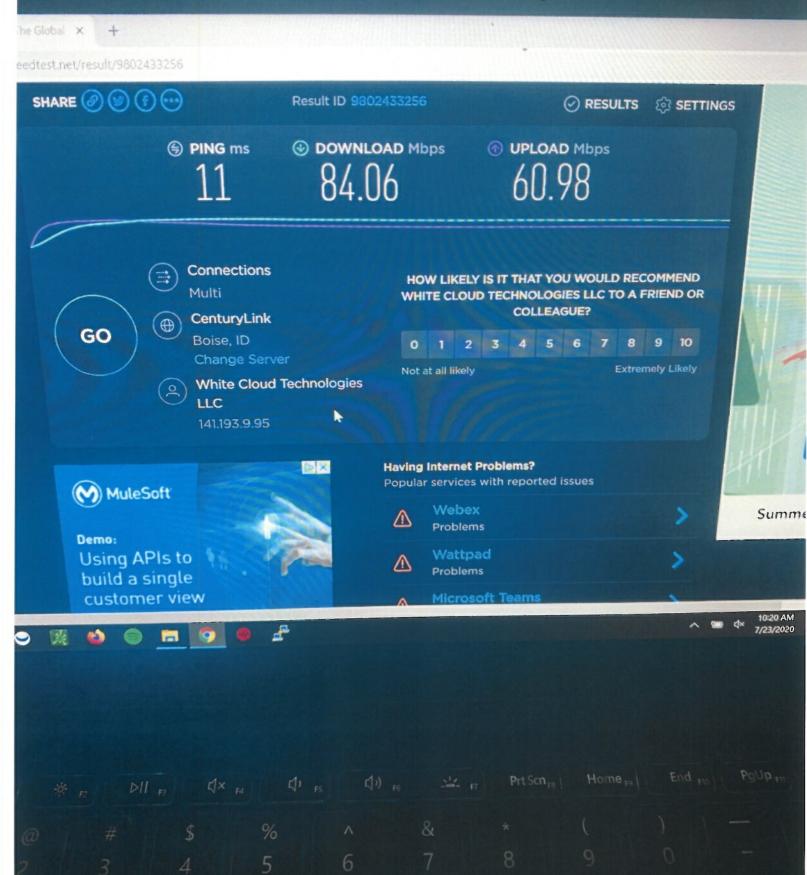
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# Brandon Rasmussen Speedtest



## eric@whitecloudcom.com

From: sean@whitecloudcom.com

**Sent:** Thursday, July 23, 2020 11:52 AM

**To:** 'Eric Smallwood' **Subject:** FW: Speed Test

# Sean Ciocca

**Operations Manager** 



Cell: (208) 539-7073
Fax: (208) 735-1778
Office: (208) 736-2960
sean@whitecloudcom.com
www.whitecloudnetworks.com

From: Tucker <tucker@whitecloudnetworks.com>

Sent: Thursday, July 23, 2020 11:51 AM

To: Jerry Gonterman <jerry@whitecloudcom.com>; Sean Ciocca <sean@whitecloudcom.com>

Subject: Fw: Speed Test

Mike torganson

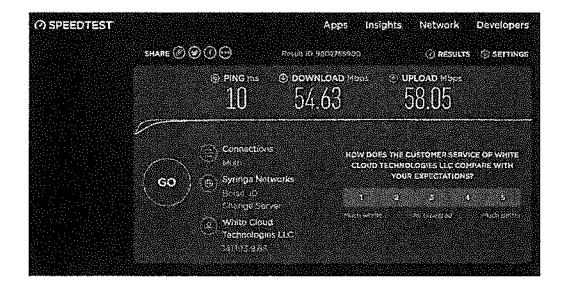
---- Forwarded Message -----

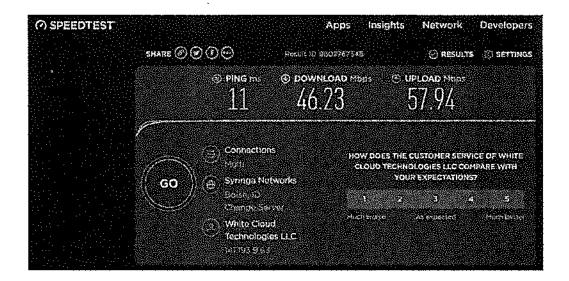
From: miketorg@yahoo.com

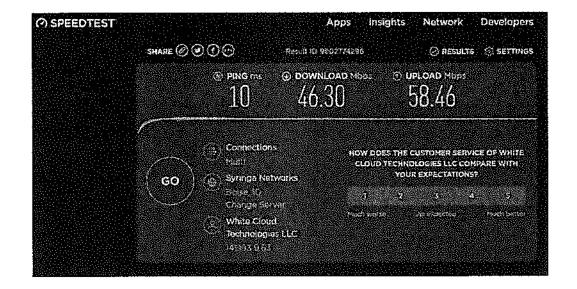
Date: 07/23/20 11:34

To: tucker@whitecloudnetworks.com

Subject: Speed Test







# HughesNet.

Satellite Internet

Speeds up to: 25mbps

Pricing starts at: \$59.99/month

Plans:

SET UP NEW SERVICE:

🔇 (844) 987-2917

See All Plans »

5. Sparklight - 6.9% Available in 83324

# /Sparklight

Cable Internet

Speeds up to: 1,000mbps

Pricing starts at: \$39/month

Plans: 4

SET UP NEW SERVICE:

**©** (855) 807-4975

See All Plans »

6. SafeLink Internet - 100.0% Available in 83324



Fixed Wireless Internet

Speeds up to: 25mbps

Pricing starts at: \$59/month

Plans:

SET UP NEW SERVICE:

**(208) 932-4000** 

### 7. Tekfinity - 97.2% Available in 83324



Fixed Wireless Internet

Speeds up to:

10mbps

Pricing starts at:

\$34.95/month

Plans:

4

SET UP NEW SERVICE:

(208) 736-0188

# 8. TruLeap Technologies - 41.6% Available in 83324



Fixed Wireless Internet

Speeds up to:

10mbps

Pricing starts at:

\$49,95/month

Plans:

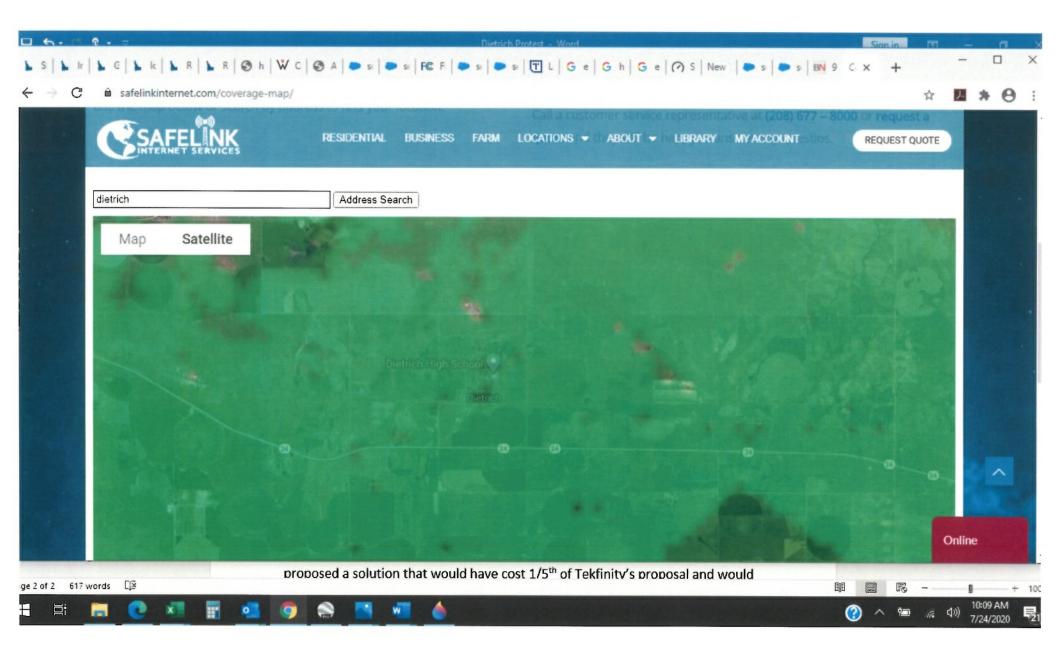
5

SET UP NEW SERVICE:

**Q** (208) 326-4331

9. SpeedConnect - 19.8% Available in 83324

SPEEDConnect'





Boise 10350 W. Emerald Boise, ID 83704 (208)332-0188 Twin Falls 460 Main Ave S Twin Falls, ID 83301 (208)736-0188

http://www.tek-finity.com

I am writing to challenge the application by the City of Murtaugh, applicant ID APP-004237.

The application submitted states Tekfinity only provides a maximum service of 10Mbps. This is incorrect.

Currently my companies serve the school district with 500 Mbps symmetrical Internet Access, and we also offer the community broadband services up to 25M.

As stated in the City's application, and not disputed by Whitecloud, Tekfinity has 100% coverage of the City of Murtaugh. The application states that Tekfinity only offers a 10Mbps plan, this is not accurate. Tekfinity offers many plans, and our customers choose what is right for them. We do have a plan that meets the 25 Mbps / 3 Mbps requirements.

The application does not meet the criteria of 50% of households are currently in an unserved area and 50% of households is in an underserved area.

The approval of the application from the City of Murtaugh, partnering with Whitecloud, will present yet another wireless carrier in the area utilizing the same or similar technology and offering speeds that are already currently available in the area. There are currently 3 providers that already serve this area with wireless technology.

Here are screenshots of bandwidth tests performed to clients in the area.

Broadbandnow speedtest will not report these speeds as our end users are not actually subscribed to these packages. These tests depict speeds available.

Below are 5 customers with current services, and the speeds they can receive.

# FyberCom LLC



# Broadband Grant Challenge

Prepared by: George Swanson

July 24, 2020

Application Challenging: APP-004138

# BASIS OF CHALLENGE

#### **Overview**

FyberCom is challenging grant application APP-004138. FyberCom will be challenging the criteria of the application and demonstrate how it is not met. FyberCom has a significant financial investment in building and expanding the broadband infrastructure in the grant proposal area.

### **Availability of Service**

FyberCom is servicing this area currently with 99% of the proposed area covered by its Fixed Wireless products and services with 100 x 10Mbps. FyberCom currently services many of the residences and businesses in the proposed area with its 40 x 10Mbps product. Refer to picture 3 for current data on FyberCom's availability of service. Gigabit service is available upon request.

#### **Criteria of Application**

According to the State of Idaho Broadband Grant Application Line 2 'Eligible Projects', Item A, Subcategory i. that this grant must be used for an infrastructure investment related to broadband as defined by the FCC: speeds of 25mbps download and 3mbps upload. According to Form 477 of the FCC's broadband map locate at <a href="mailto:broadbandmap.fcc.gov">broadbandmap.fcc.gov</a> FyberCom is currently servicing all of the proposed grant area with more than the minimum speeds required by this grant.

According to the State of Idaho Broadband Grant Application Line 2 'Eligible Projects', Item A, Subcategory iii. that the proposed grant must be for a project that serves an under-built area and does not overbuild existing broadband service. FyberCom has already built out the proposed area with its private funds. It has spent over several years building the infrastructure in the proposed area. According the FCC data there are 8 other providers who also cover this area at the minimum listed speeds by the FCC. See Form 477 data below that covers each census block in the preposed grant area.

#### 477 Form Data

FRN: 0023650807 FyberCom LLC

Proposed Census Blocks: 160659502003014, 160659503022030, 160659503022002, 160659502003050, 160659503022000, 160659502002012, 160659502002011, 160659502002019, 160659502002018, 160659502001019, 160659502001020, 160659502001014, 160659502001023, 160659504002035, 160659502001022, 160659504002037, 160659504003006, 160659504001673, 160659504001667, 160659503023000, 160659503023035, 160659504001693, 160659504001662

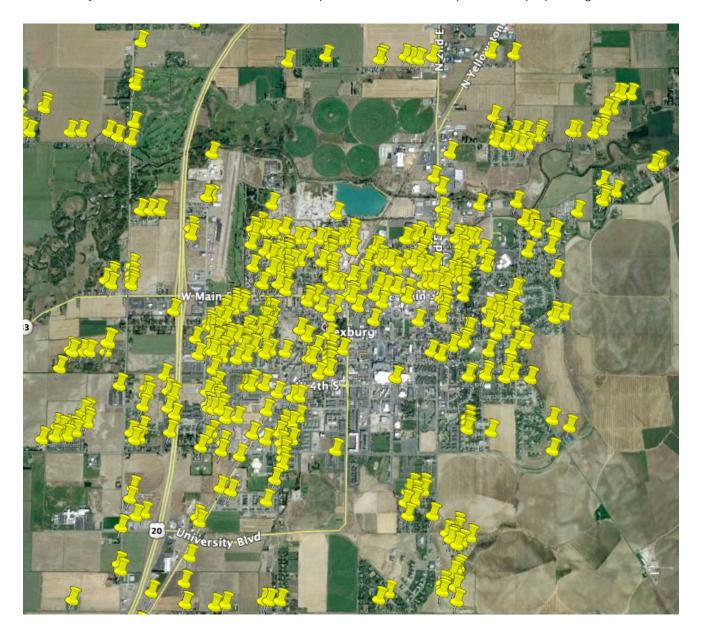
Here is FyberCom's 477 Form data providing proof of the serviced area:

# Rexburg FBD

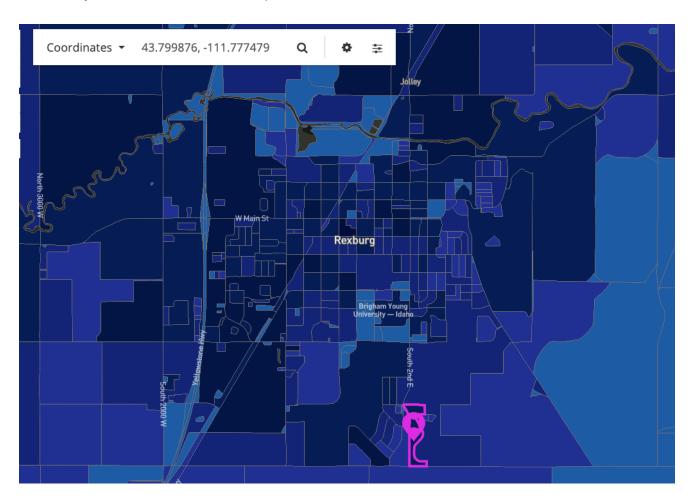
160659502001014	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160659502001019	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160659502001020	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160659502001022	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160659502001023	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	1000	1000	1
160659502002011	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160659502002012	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160659502002018	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160659502002019	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160659502003014	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160659502003050	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160659503022000	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160659503022002	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160659503022030	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160659503023000	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160659503023035	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160659504001662	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160659504001667	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160659504001667	FYBERCOM LLC	50	1	10000	10000	1
160659504001673	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160659504001693	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	1000	1000	1
160659504002035	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160659504002037	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1
160659504003006	FYBERCOM LLC	70	1	40	10	1

# **Picture Data**

Picture 1: FyberCom current customer base with capabilities of 100 x 10Mbps inside of proposed grant area.



Picture 2: FyberCom's FCC Broadband Map Data



Picture 2: FyberCom's FCC Broadband Map Data Cont.

#### **All Providers Reporting Service** Census block ID: 160659504001693 **Number of Fixed Residential Broadband Providers** 2 3 4 6 12 or more Broadband Ö Technology ADSL, Cable, Fiber, Fixed Wireless, Satellite, Other Speed ≥ 25/3 Mbps Date June 2019 (latest public release) Provider Tech Down ▼ Up (Mbps) (Mbps) Cable Cable One, Inc. 1000 50 ■ Fybercom LLC Fixed 1000 1000 Wireless JAB Wireless, Inc. 9 Fixed 50 Wireless □ ViaSat, Inc. Satellite 35 3 Safelink Internet Fixed 5 25 Wireless Hughes Network Systems, Satellite 25 3 LLC ■ VSAT Systems, LLC Satellite 2 1.3 □ CenturyLink, Inc. ADSL 1.5 0.896

## **Final Remarks**

FyberCom has been providing broadband in Rexburg ID for 5 years. FyberCom would also like to state that this grant is not for running fiber in an over served area. If this is the case FyberCom would like to be considered by Madison County to help with this project. This area is NOT underserved and does NOT meet the grant criteria.

## **Magaly Carrillo**

From: Kevin Neal < kevin@safelinkinternet.com>

**Sent:** Friday, July 24, 2020 4:20 PM

**To:** COM Broadband

**Subject:** Broadband Grant Challenge City of Hazelton APP-004131

**Attachments:** EdenHazeltonCoverage.png

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

In the City of Hazelton's application - ID APP-004131 they were missing some important details that would be needed for your scoring criteria.

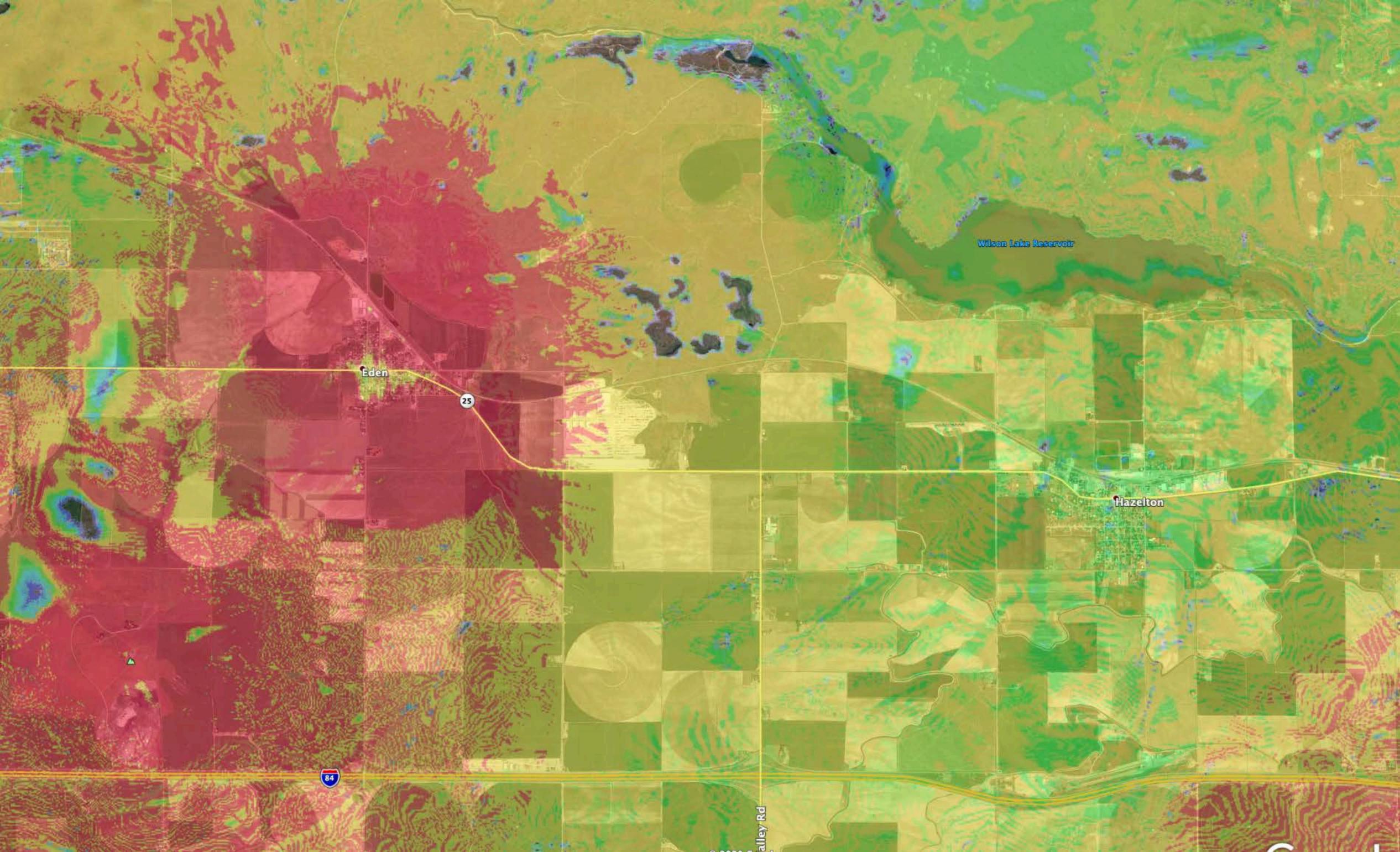
The application does not meet the stated criteria: 50% of households are currently in an unserved area and 50% of households are in an underserved area.

Safelink Internet has been a long-standing Internet Service Provider for the Hazelton area and continues to upgrade equipment to best service customers in the community. We have active service in the stated area of the City's application.

Attached is a copy of our coverage map. Any location within the red, orange, and yellow zones are capable of subscribing to our 25x5 plan, using our standard equipment. Customers in the green areas are also capable of subscribing to our 25x5 plan with a larger antenna that is also available through Safelink.

The approval of the City of Hazelton application would subsidize an existing Wireless Internet Service Provider who already offers similar speeds as the other 2 current providers in the area.

Respectfully, Kevin Neal IT Director Safelink Internet



## **Magaly Carrillo**

From: Kevin Neal < kevin@safelinkinternet.com>

**Sent:** Friday, July 24, 2020 4:20 PM

**To:** COM Broadband

**Subject:** Broadband Grant Challenge City of Eden APP-004257

**Attachments:** EdenHazeltonCoverage.png

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

In the City of Eden's application - ID APP-004257 they were missing some important details that would be needed for your scoring criteria.

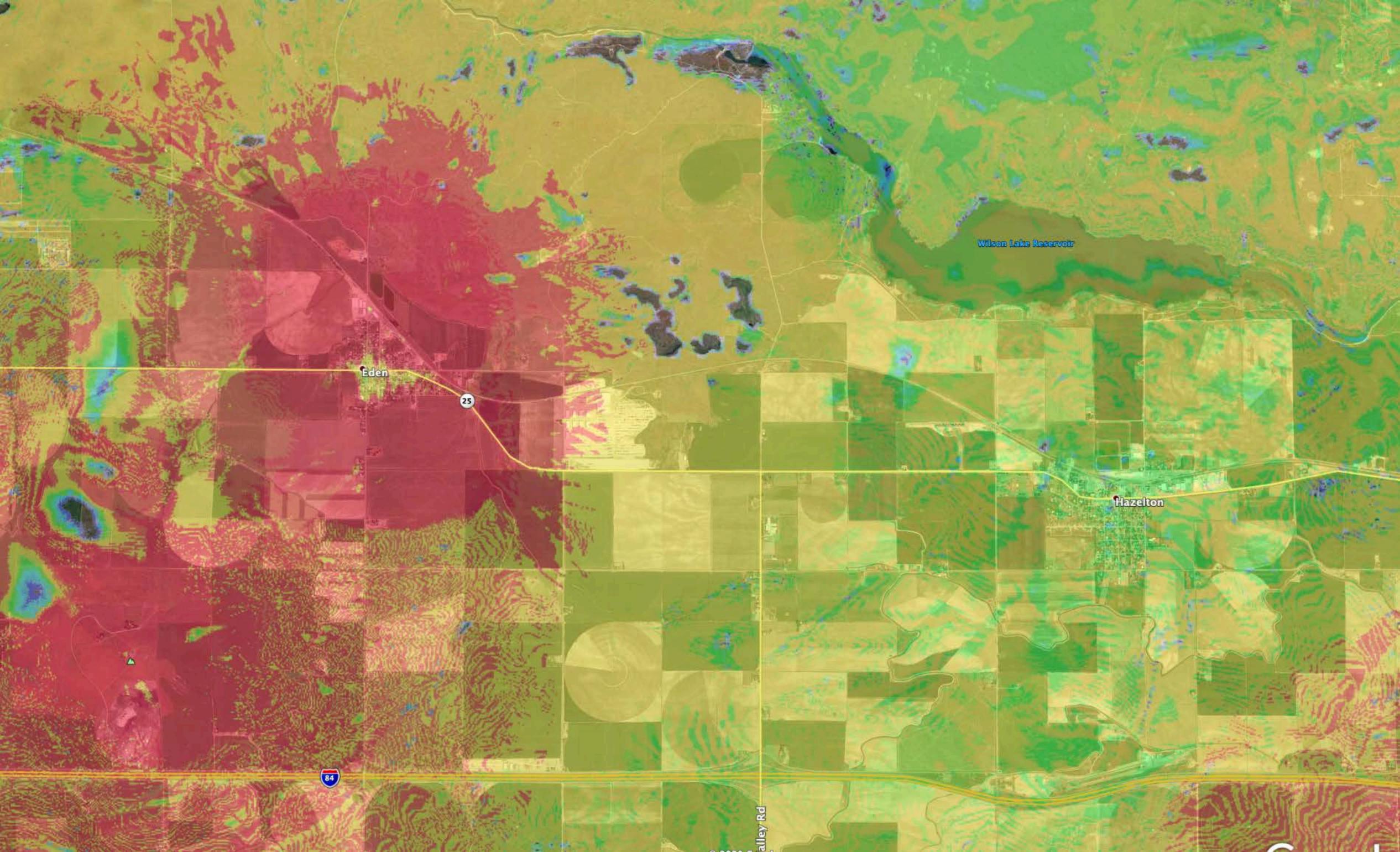
The application does not meet the stated criteria: 50% of households are currently in an unserved area and 50% of households are in an underserved area.

Safelink Internet has been a long-standing Internet Service Provider for the Eden area and continues to upgrade equipment to best service customers in the community. We have active service in the stated area of the City's application.

Attached is a copy of our coverage map. Any location within the red, orange, and yellow zones are capable of subscribing to our 25x5 plan, using our standard equipment. Customers in the green areas are also capable of subscribing to our 25x5 plan with a larger antenna that is also available through Safelink.

The approval of the City of Eden application would subsidize an existing Wireless Internet Service Provider who already offers similar speeds as the other 2 current providers in the area.

Respectfully, Kevin Neal IT Director Safelink Internet





July 24, 2020

663 Main Ave E. Twin Falls ID 83301

We are writing the Idaho Dept of Commerce to challenge the application by the city of Eden, applicant ID APP-004257.

We are challenging the use of this grant to provide a service that is already available. This grant does not meet the application requirements. This application does not meet the criteria of 50% of households are currently in an unserved area and 50% of households is in an underserved.

Safelink and Tekfinity both cover Eden with 100% coverage. Please see supporting documentation from Broadbandnow.com. Safelink and Tekfinity both offer packages that meet the minimum 25/3 requirements. Please see attached letter Tekfinity wrote the Idaho Dept of Commerce stating such. Please also see the coverage map from Safelink, the green is areas they cover with minimum 25/3. Another dataset to look at is FCC Form 477 data. I am attaching a Google Earth overlay which was prepared by JSI Consulting showing the census blocks which Safelink has filed with the FCC that they provide 25/5 coverage for. You will see the entirety of Eden is covered.

Furthermore, Tekfinity is proposing to use almost three million dollars to bring a fiber optic line to the city of Eden. Eden already has a high speed fiber line running through town.

Century Link currently has a fiber optic line that enters city limits on the west side of town on Hwy 25. It runs through town following Hwy 25 to Hammond Street. At Hammond street there is a tee, a stub line runs south on Hammond Street to Orchard Ave. The line continues from the tee along Hwy 25 till it exits city limits. There is approximately 0.92 miles of fiber running through the city of Eden currently. Please see attached map provided by Century Link.

According to Kyle Clark, Senior Account Executive at Century Link they can provide multiple 1 gigabyte symmetrical connections in the city of Eden.

In the grant application the total project cost is listed at \$2,997.952.00. The number of households served is listed as 423. The application asks what is the average cost per household of new broadband service based on this project cost. The application lists \$63 per household. This is grossly wrong and off by thousands of dollars. The average cost per household based on these numbers for this project is \$7,087.35.

As a requirement of the application, there is supposed to be a budget submitted for the project. There is no budget for this project proposed submitted with the grant application.

In the application Tekfinity also states that this project will impact the city of Murtaugh and the 168 homes there. Please see attached supporting document taken from the application and highlighted. Yet at the same time they are protesting the White Cloud project in Murtaugh saying they already cover the whole entirety of Murtaugh with 25/3 coverage. The duplicity involved with this application is alarming.

This application should be rejected for all the reasons discussed above. With so many poorly served areas in Idaho needing attention, we feel the Idaho Dept of Commerce could find better opportunities for the public's money to be spent. This grant asking for 8.6% of the \$35 million dollars allocated for household grants for the whole state to be spent on 423 households is not a good deal.

7 Best Internet Service Providers in Eden, ID (Jul, 2020)

SET UP NEW SERVICE:

(855) 982-8990

See All Plans »

5. SafeLink Internet - 100.0% Available in Eden



Fixed Wireless Internet

Speeds up to:

25mbps

Pricing starts at:

\$59/month

Plans:

4

SET UP NEW SERVICE:

© (208) 932-4000

6. Tekfinity - 100.0% Available in Eden



Fixed Wireless Internet

Speeds up to:

10mbps

Pricing starts at:

\$34.95/month

Plans:

4

SET UP NEW SERVICE:

(208) 736-0188



Boise 10350 W. Emerald Boise, ID 83704 (208)332-0188 Twin Falls 460 Main Ave S Twin Falls, ID 83301 (208)736-0188

http://www.tek-finity.com

I am writing to challenge the application by the City of Murtaugh, applicant ID APP-004237.

The application submitted states Tekfinity only provides a maximum service of 10Mbps. This is incorrect.

Currently my companies serve the school district with 500 Mbps symmetrical Internet Access, and we also offer the community broadband services up to 25M.

As stated in the City's application, and not disputed by Whitecloud, Tekfinity has 100% coverage of the City of Murtaugh. The application states that Tekfinity only offers a 10Mbps plan, this is not accurate. Tekfinity offers many plans, and our customers choose what is right for them. We do have a plan that meets the 25 Mbps / 3 Mbps requirements.

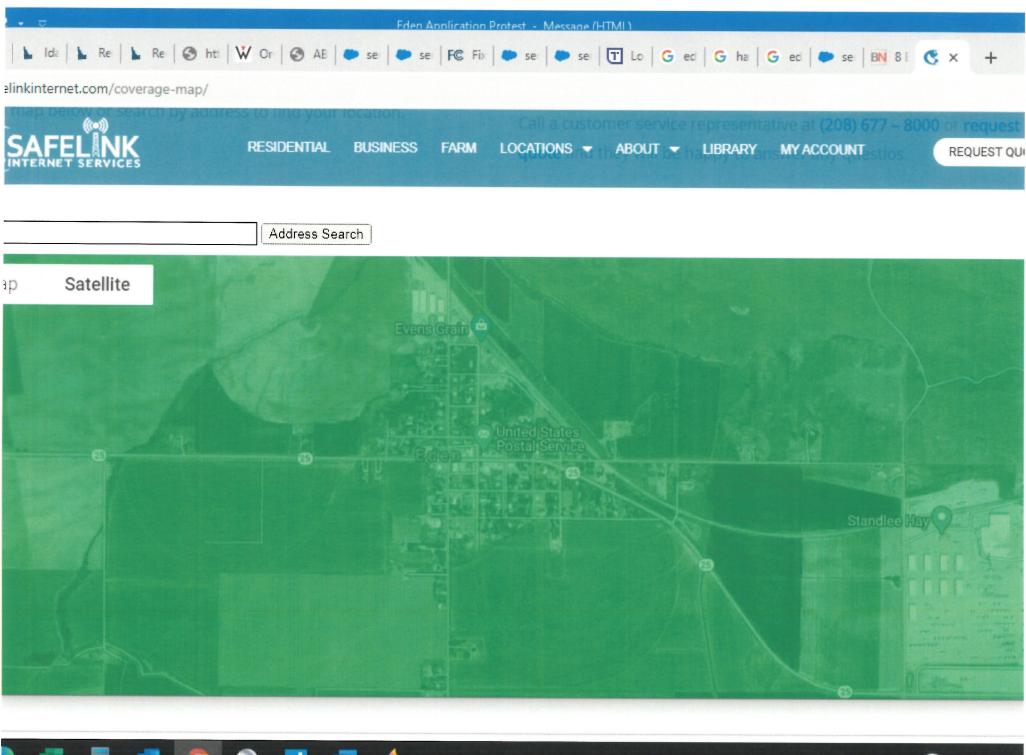
The application does not meet the criteria of 50% of households are currently in an unserved area and 50% of households is in an underserved area.

The approval of the application from the City of Murtaugh, partnering with Whitecloud, will present yet another wireless carrier in the area utilizing the same or similar technology and offering speeds that are already currently available in the area. There are currently 3 providers that already serve this area with wireless technology.

Here are screenshots of bandwidth tests performed to clients in the area.

Broadbandnow speedtest will not report these speeds as our end users are not actually subscribed to these packages. These tests depict speeds available.

Below are 5 customers with current services, and the speeds they can receive.







# katie@whitecloudnetworks.com

From:

eric@whitecloudcom.com

Sent:

Subject:

Thursday, July 23, 2020 11:26 AM

To:

katie@whitecloudnetworks.com FW: Eden, ID

From: Clark, Kyl

Sent: Thursday, July 23, 2020 10:42 AM

To: Eric Smallwood <eric@whitecloudcom.com>; 'Joe Shelton' <joe@whitecloudcom.com>

Subject: Eden, ID





Boise 10350 W. Emerald Boise, ID 83704 (208)332-0188 Twin Falls 460 Main Ave S Twin Falls, ID 83301 (208)736-0188

http://www.tek-finity.com

The new fiber will provide access to direct fiber internet access to homes along the route and in and around the city of Eden. In addition to the homes passed, the LTE service can serve 423 homes in town up to 8 miles away from the fiber route. The packages are listed below.

#### Fiber

50M	\$34.95 per month
100M	\$64.95 per month
1000M	\$84.95 per month

#### LTE

5M	\$34.95 per month
10M	\$54.95 per month
15M	\$64.95 per month
20M	\$74.95
25M	\$84.95

This project will also impact the rural community of Murtaugh, serving potentially another 168 homes.

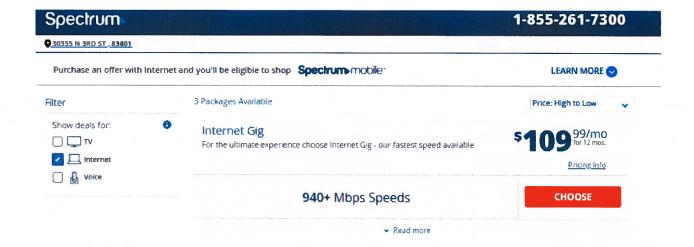
The green line depicts the new fiber route starting in Eden and finishing in Murtaugh. The LTE POP will serve up to 8 miles outside the city of Eden.

#### APP-004297 Athol, Idaho

Spectrum Pacific West, LLC files this Challenge because the applicant's proposed grant project includes an area that is already being served by at least one provider offering broadband service — namely, Spectrum. Spectrum holds a statewide cable television franchise and has provided service to Athol, Idaho for many years. Athol's application for a grant from the State of Idaho Broadband Grant Program must be rejected because significant portions of the proposed network buildout overbuilds services already in place by Spectrum in Athol, Idaho. Specifically, Athol City Hall and Community Center, which are mentioned in the application, are already served by Spectrum high-speed broadband services. Spectrum also currently serves the city limits and other surrounding homes near Athol, Idaho. See Affidavit of Danielle Wade. Granting this application would be in violation of the statutory funding requirement.

The grant funding rules found in "State of Idaho Broadband Grant Application: households" explicitly provides that applications must "be a project that serves underbuilt areas and does not overbuild existing broadband service." Section (2)(A)(iii) (emphasis added.) This overbuild restriction is reiterated later in the rules under the section titled "application." This rule sets forth a two-step test to determine eligibility. First, be a project that serves underbuilt areas, which is defined as less than fifty percent of households in the project area. Second, must not overbuild existing broadband service. As demonstrated in Danielle Wade's affidavit, Spectrum's high speed broadband network is already available in the proposed service area identified in the application and currently offers speeds up to 940/35 Mbps service — which far exceeds the minimum service threshold set forth in the program rules. Also attached is a screenshot from Spectrum's publicly-available service tool which describes the broadband internet products available to homes and businesses in Athol. Therefore, Spectrum's service area in Athol constitutes a served area and is not eligible for funding under the State of Idaho Broadband Grant Application Program.

Any award of funding that overlaps Charter's network would frustrate the goals of the grant program – to bring broadband service to truly unserved areas. Spectrum encourages the Department to adhere to the program rules and reject the Application as there is verifiable information that the proposed project includes an area that is already being served by at least one provider, namely Spectrum, offering broadband service.



## AFFIDAVIT APP- 004297 Athol, Idaho

STATE OF WASHINGTON COUNTY OF CLARK, to wit.

- I, Danielle Wade, being duly sworn, deposes and says as follows:
- 1. I am an Area Vice President, Field Operations for Charter Communications, Inc., a publicly-held Delaware corporation with a principal place of business at 400 Atlantic Street, Stamford, CT 0690l ("Charter"). I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth in this affidavit.
- 2. Charter is a provider of broadband internet services, among other products, and owns the cable system that provides broadband/high speed internet access (the "System") operated by Spectrum Pacific West, LLC in certain areas of Athol, Idaho, including the city limits of Athol, Athol City Hall, Athol Community Center, and homes in the areas surrounding Athol. Spectrum Pacific West, LLC is a Delaware limited liability company with a principal place of business in Missouri.
- 3. I am familiar with the System and hereby declare and confirm that, based on information and belief, the System is deployed in and architected, designed and constructed to deliver residential and business internet with a connection of up to 940 Mbps download/35 Mbps upload within the service territory that is the subject of Charter's Challenge to City of Athol's Application for funding to overbuild the area of Athol, Idaho including, the city limits of Athol, Athol City Hall, Athol Community Center, and homes in the areas surrounding Athol, where Charter provides broadband services.

Further this affiant sayeth not.

[SIGNATURE PAGE FOLLOWS]

Subscribed and sworn before me, a notary public of and for the jurisdiction aforesaid, this day of, 2020, by Danielle Wade, as AVP, Field Operations for Charter
Communications, Ind., who affirmed that all of his declarations contained in the above affidavit
are true and correct.
Dufude
Danielle Wade,
AVP, Field Operations for Charter Communications, Inc.
[SEAL]  Adama Muna Inel  Motary Public  My commission expires: 2-12-23  NOTARY  PUBLIC  OF WASHING  OF WASHING  MY COMMISSION EXPIRES OF THE PUBLIC COMMISSION EXPIRE

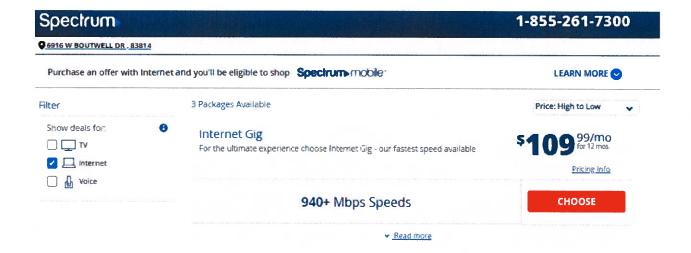


#### APP- 004289 Valorie Fast Horse (Coeur d Alene Tribe)

Spectrum Pacific West, LLC files this Challenge because the named applicant's proposed grant project includes an area that is already being served by at least one provider offering broadband service – namely, Spectrum. Spectrum holds a statewide cable television franchise and has provided service to the area for many years. Coeur d Alene Tribe's application for a grant from the State of Idaho Broadband Grant Program must be rejected because significant portions of the proposed network buildout overbuilds services already in place by Spectrum in Rockford Bay. Specifically, the proposal in the application to provide new broadband in the area along the North side of Rockford Bay is already provided with broadband by Spectrum in its entirety. The proposed new build area in the south west parts of Rockford Bay are also largely served by Spectrum. See Affidavit of Danielle Wade. Granting this application would be in violation of the statutory funding requirement.

The grant funding rules found in "State of Idaho Broadband Grant Application: households" explicitly provides that applications must "be a project that serves underbuilt areas and does not overbuild existing broadband service." Section (2)(A)(iii) (emphasis added.) This overbuild restriction is reiterated later in the rules under the section titled "application." This rule sets forth a two-step test to determine eligibility. First, be a project that serves underbuilt areas, which is defined as less than fifty percent of households in the project area. Second, must not overbuild existing broadband service. As demonstrated in Danielle Wade's affidavit, Spectrum's high speed broadband network is already available in the proposed service area identified in the application and currently offers speeds up to 940/35 Mbps service — which far exceeds the minimum service threshold set forth in the program rules. Also attached is a screenshot from Spectrum's publicly-available service tool which describes the broadband internet products available to homes and businesses in Rockford Bay. Therefore, Spectrum's service area constitutes a served area and is not eligible for funding under the State of Idaho Broadband Grant Application Program.

Any award of funding that overlaps Charter's network would frustrate the goals of the grant program – to bring broadband service to truly unserved areas. Spectrum encourages the Department to adhere to the program rules and reject the Application as there is verifiable information that the proposed project includes an area that is already being served by at least one provider, namely Spectrum, offering broadband service.



# AFFIDAVIT APP- 004289 Valorie Fast Horse (Coeur d Alene Tribe)

STATE OF WASHINGTON COUNTY OF CLARK, to wit.

- I, Danielle Wade, being duly sworn, deposes and says as follows:
- 1. I am an Area Vice President, Field Operations for Charter Communications, Inc., a publicly-held Delaware corporation with a principal place of business at 400 Atlantic Street, Stamford, CT 0690l ("Charter"). I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth in this affidavit.
- 2. Charter is a provider of broadband internet services, among other products, and owns the cable system that provides broadband/high speed internet access (the "System") operated by Spectrum Pacific West, LLC in Rockford Bay, including the entirety of the north side of the bay and many parts of the south west. Spectrum Pacific West, LLC is a Delaware limited liability company with a principal place of business in Missouri.
- 3. I am familiar with the System and hereby declare and confirm that, based on information and belief, the System is deployed in and architected, designed and constructed to deliver residential and business internet with a connection of up to 940 Mbps download/35 Mbps upload within the service territory that is the subject of Charter's Challenge to Coeur d Alene Tribe's Application for funding to overbuild the area of Rockford Bay, including the entirety of the north side of the bay and many parts of the south west, where Charter provides broadband services.

Further this affiant sayeth not.

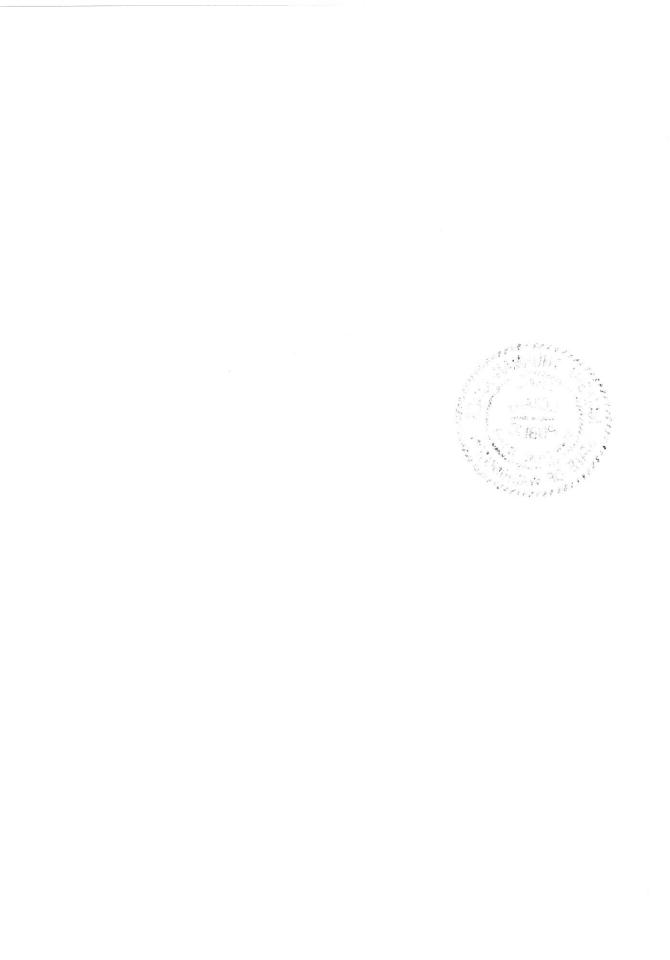
[SIGNATURE PAGE FOLLOWS]

Subscribed and sworn before me, a notary public of and for the jurisdiction aforesaid, this
Subscribed and sworn before me, a notary public of and for the jurisdiction aforesaid, this day of, 2020, by Danielle Wade, as AVP, Field Operations for Charter
Communications, Inc., who affirmed that all of his declarations contained in the above affidavit
are true and correct.
Dhouse
Danielle Wade,
AVP, Field Operations for Charter Communications, Inc.
At. 1 M

[SEAL]



Notary Public
My commission expires: 2-12-23



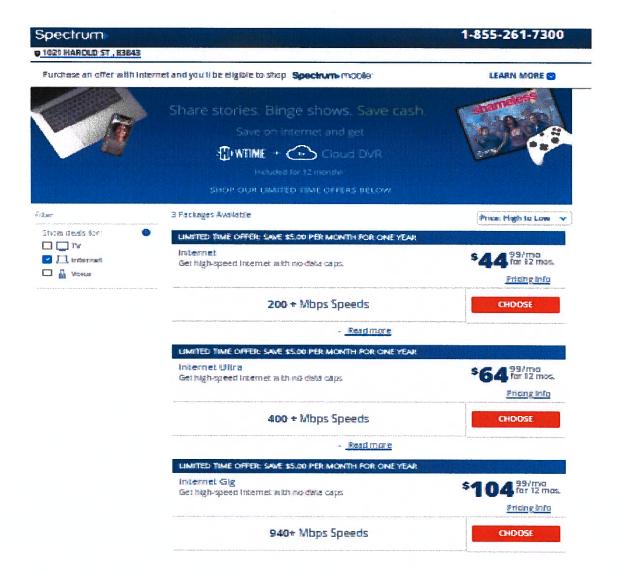
#### APP-004224 Latah County - Laurel Caldwell

Spectrum Pacific West, LLC files this Challenge because the named applicant's proposed grant project includes an area that is already being served by at least one provider offering broadband service — namely, Spectrum. Spectrum holds a statewide cable television franchise and has provided service to the area for many years. Latah County's application to extend broadband services in Mosco, Idaho should be rejected because Spectrum already provides adequate broadband to all of the locations in the application for Moscow, Idaho. Specifically, Spectrum provides broadband to the the Latah County Fair Office and surrounding areas, which are specified in the application. Furthermore, Latah County's application for a grant from the State of Idaho Broadband Grant Program must be rejected because Spectrum has already commenced construction and will launch services in the proposed areas Troy by December 2020. Specifically, Troy High School, Troy City Hall, Troy Fire Hall, and the Troy City Park will be served by Spectrum high-speed broadband services once the project is complete. *See* Affidavit of Danielle Wade. Granting this application would be in violation of the statutory funding requirement.

The grant funding rules found in "State of Idaho Broadband Grant Application: households" explicitly provides that applications must "be a project that serves underbuilt areas and does not overbuild existing broadband service." Section (2)(A)(iii) (emphasis added.) This overbuild restriction is reiterated later in the rules under the section titled "application." This rule sets forth a two-step test to determine eligibility. First, be a project that serves underbuilt areas, which is defined as less than fifty percent of households in the project area. Second, must not overbuild existing broadband service. As demonstrated in Danielle Wade's affidavit, Spectrum's high speed broadband network is already available in the proposed service area identified in the application and currently offers speeds up to 940/35 Mbps service — which far exceeds the minimum service threshold set forth in the program rules. Also attached is a screenshot from Spectrum's publicly-available service tool which describes the broadband internet products available to homes and businesses in Moscow, Idaho. Therefore,

Spectrum's service area here constitutes a served area and is not eligible for funding under the State of Idaho Broadband Grant Program.

Any award of funding that overlaps Charter's network would frustrate the goals of the grant program – to bring broadband service to truly unserved areas. Spectrum encourages the Department to adhere to the program rules and reject the Application as there is verifiable information that the proposed project includes an area that is already being served by at least one provider, namely Spectrum, offering broadband service.



# AFFIDAVIT APP- 004224 Latah County - Laurel Caldwell

STATE OF WASHINGTON COUNTY OF CLARK, to wit.

- I, Danielle Wade, being duly sworn, deposes and says as follows:
- 1. I am an Area Vice President, Field Operations for Charter Communications, Inc., a publicly-held Delaware corporation with a principal place of business at 400 Atlantic Street, Stamford, CT 0690l ("Charter"). I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth in this affidavit.
- 2. Charter is a provider of broadband internet services, among other products, and owns the cable system that provides broadband/high speed internet access (the "System") operated by Spectrum Pacific West, LLC in Moscow Idaho, specifically, to the Latah County Fair Office and surrounding areas. Spectrum has commenced construction and will launch services in Troy, Idaho by December 2020. Specifically, Troy High School, Troy City Hall, Troy Fire Hall, and the Troy City Park will be served by Spectrum high-speed broadband services once the project is complete. Spectrum Pacific West, LLC is a Delaware limited liability company with a principal place of business in Missouri.
- 3. I am familiar with the System and hereby declare and confirm that, based on information and belief, the System is deployed in and architected, designed and constructed to deliver residential and business internet with a connection of up to 940 Mbps download/35 Mbps upload within the service territory that is the subject of Charter's Challenge to Latah County's Application for funding to overbuild Spectrum in the area of Moscow Idaho, specifically, to the Latah County Fair Office and surrounding areas. Spectrum has commenced construction and will launch services in Troy, Idaho by December 2020. Specifically, Troy High School, Troy City Hall, Troy Fire Hall, and the Troy City Park will be served by Spectrum high-speed broadband services once the project is complete.

Further this affiant sayeth not.

[SIGNATURE PAGE FOLLOWS]

day o Communic are true and Danielle W	f, 2020, by D ations, Inc., who affirmed the d correct.	e, a notary public of and for the jurisdiction aforesaid, this panielle Wade, as AVP, Field Operations for Charter at all of his declarations contained in the above affidavit
[SEAL]	THURMAN NOTARY	Notary Public My commission expires: 2-12-23



#### APP-004183 Kootenai County - Jody Bieze

Spectrum Pacific West, LLC files this Challenge because the named applicant's proposed grant project includes an area that is already being served by at least one provider offering broadband service namely, Spectrum. Spectrum holds a statewide cable television franchise and has provided service to the area for many years. Kootenai County's application for a grant from the State of Idaho Broadband Grant Program must be rejected because significant portions of the proposed network buildout overbuilds services already in place by Spectrum. This application provides for improvements and services to areas using fixed wireless technology, which uses towers to transmit internet wirelessly across distances. The towers and areas proposed in this application, and the other applications Spectrum is challenging that were submitted by Kootenai County, are part of a network of towers that rely on each other and are each needed to provide services. Here, the applicant proposes to replace or modify towers in locations where Spectrum does not provide broadband services, however, the towers will transmit broadband into areas already served by Spectrum. Specifically, the proposed project states that it intends to support a fixed wireless expansion to serve many communities, including, Athol, Coeur d'Alene, Hayden Lake, Hauser, Bayview, parts of Rathdrum, and Stateline. Spectrum currently provides services to all of these areas and communities. See Affidavit of Danielle Wade. Granting this application would be in violation of the statutory funding requirement.

The grant funding rules found in "State of Idaho Broadband Grant Application: households" provides that applications must "be a project that serves underbuilt areas and does not overbuild existing broadband service." Section (2)(A)(iii) (emphasis added.) This overbuild restriction is reiterated later in the rules under the section titled "application." This rule sets forth a two-step test to determine eligibility. First, be a project that serves underbuilt areas, which is defined as less than fifty percent of households in the project area. Second, must not overbuild existing broadband service. As demonstrated in Danielle Wade's affidavit, Spectrum's high speed broadband network is already

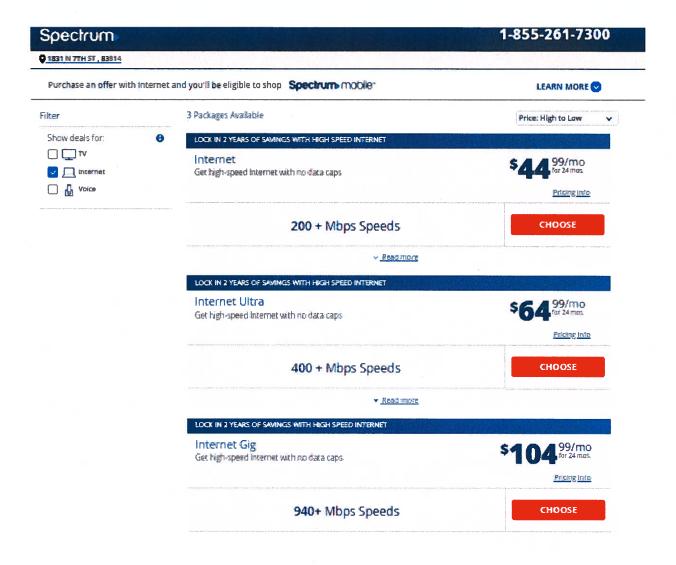
available in the proposed service area identified in the application and currently offers speeds up to 940/35 Mbps service – which far exceeds the minimum service threshold set forth in the program rules. Also attached are screenshots from Spectrum's publicly-available service tool which describes the broadband internet products available to homes and businesses in Athol, Coeur d'Alene, Hayden Lake, Hauser, Bayview, Rathdrum, and Stateline. Therefore, Spectrum's service area constitutes a served area and is not eligible for funding under the State of Idaho Broadband Grant Application Program.

Any award of funding that overlaps Charter's network would frustrate the goals of the grant program – to bring broadband service to truly unserved areas. Spectrum encourages the Department to adhere to the program rules and reject the Application because there is verifiable information that the proposed project includes an area that is already being served by at least one provider, namely Spectrum, offering broadband service.

#### Athol

Spectrum		1-855-261-7300
30355 N 3RD ST . 83801		
Purchase an offer with In	sternet and you'll be eligible to shop Spectrum mobile:	LEARN MORE
Filter	3 Packages Available	Price: High to Low
Show deals for:	Internet Gig  For the ultimate experience choose Internet Gig - our fastest speed available	\$109 99/mo for 12 mos.
/ Internet  Voice		Pricing Info
	940+ Mbps Speeds	CHOOSE
	✓ Read more	

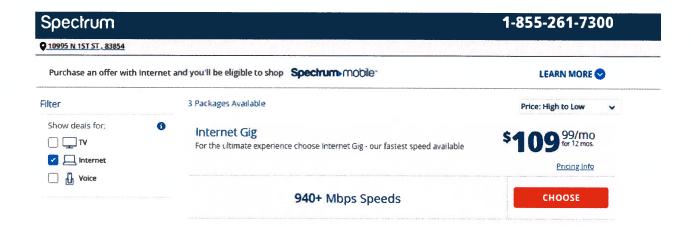
#### Coeur d'Alene



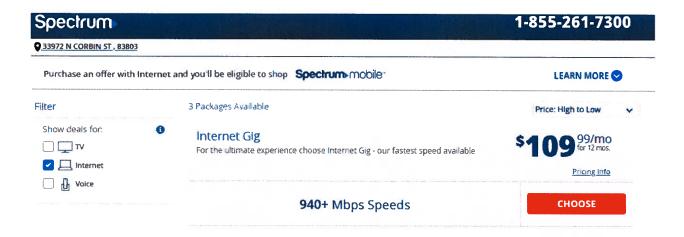
### **Hayden Lake**



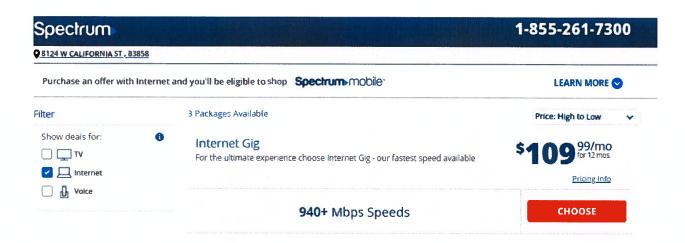
#### Hauser



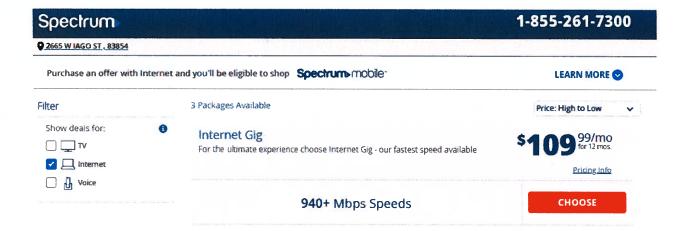
#### **Bayview**



#### Rathdrum



### Stateline



# AFFIDAVIT APP- 004183 Kootenai County - Jody Bieze

STATE OF WASHINGTON COUNTY OF CLARK, to wit.

- I, Danielle Wade, being duly sworn, deposes and says as follows:
- 1. I am an Area Vice President, Field Operations for Charter Communications, Inc., a publicly-held Delaware corporation with a principal place of business at 400 Atlantic Street, Stamford, CT 0690l ("Charter"). I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth in this affidavit.
- 2. Charter is a provider of broadband internet services, among other products, and owns the cable system that provides broadband/high speed internet access (the "System") operated by Spectrum Pacific West, LLC in Kootenai County, Idaho. Specifically, Spectrum provides broadband services in Athol, Coeur d'Alene, Hayden Lake, Hauser, Bayview, parts of Rathdrum, and Stateline. Spectrum Pacific West, LLC is a Delaware limited liability company with a principal place of business in Missouri.
- 3. I am familiar with the System and hereby declare and confirm that, based on information and belief, the System is deployed in and architected, designed and constructed to deliver residential and business internet with a connection of up to 940 Mbps download/35 Mbps upload within the service territory that is the subject of Charter's Challenge to Kootenai County's Application for funding to overbuild Spectrum in the areas of Athol, Coeur d'Alene, Hayden Lake, Hauser, Bayview, parts of Rathdrum, and Stateline.

Further this affiant sayeth not.

[SIGNATURE PAGE FOLLOWS]

Subscribed and sworn before me, a notary public of and for the jurisdiction aforesaid, this day of, 2020, by Danielle Wade, as AVP, Field Operations for Charter Communications, Inc., who affirmed that all of his declarations contained in the above affidavit
are true and correct.
The
Danielle Wade,
AVP, Field Operations for Charter Communications, Inc.
[SEAL]  Wotary Public  My commission expires: 2-72-23  WASHINGTON  WASHIN  WAND  WASHIN  WAND  WASHINGTON  WASHIN  WAND  WASHIN  WAND  WAS

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### APP-004204 Kootenai County - Jody Bieze

Spectrum Pacific West, LLC files this Challenge because the named applicant's proposed grant project includes an area that is already being served by at least one provider offering broadband service - namely, Spectrum. Spectrum holds a statewide cable television franchise and has provided service to the area for many years. Kootenai County's application for a grant from the State of Idaho Broadband Grant Program must be rejected because significant portions of the proposed network buildout overbuilds services already in place by Spectrum. This application provides for improvements and services to areas using fixed wireless technology, which uses towers to transmit internet wirelessly across distances. The towers and areas proposed in this application, and the other applications Spectrum is challenging that were submitted by Kootenai County, are part of a network of towers that rely on each other and are each needed to provide services. Here, the applicant proposes to replace or modify towers in locations where Spectrum does not provide broadband services, however, the towers will transmit broadband into areas already served by Spectrum. Specifically, the proposed project states that it intends to support a fixed wireless expansion to serve many communities, including, Athol, Coeur d'Alene, Hayden Lake, Hauser, Bayview, parts of Rathdrum, and Stateline. Spectrum currently provides services to all of these areas and communities. See Affidavit of Danielle Wade. Granting this application would be in violation of the statutory funding requirement.

The grant funding rules found in "State of Idaho Broadband Grant Application: households" provides that applications must "be a project that serves underbuilt areas and does not overbuild existing broadband service." Section (2)(A)(iii) (emphasis added.) This overbuild restriction is reiterated later in the rules under the section titled "application." This rule sets forth a two-step test to determine eligibility. First, be a project that serves underbuilt areas, which is defined as less than fifty percent of households in the project area. Second, must not overbuild existing broadband service. As demonstrated in Danielle Wade's affidavit, Spectrum's high speed broadband network is already

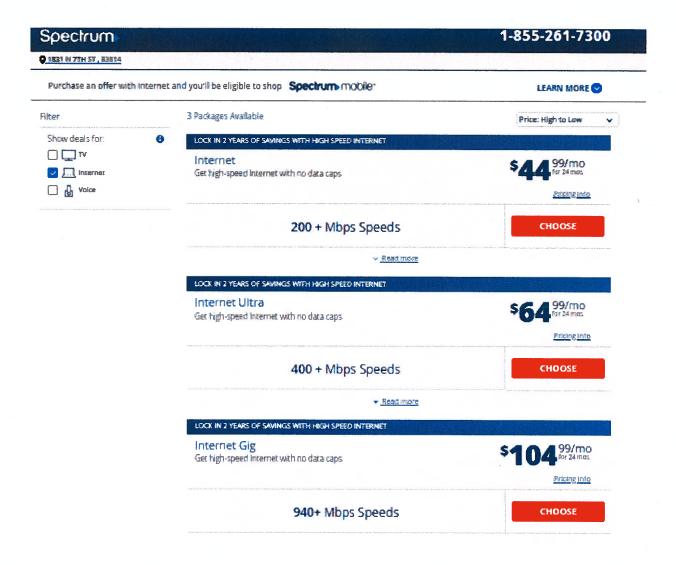
available in the proposed service area identified in the application and currently offers speeds up to 940/35 Mbps service – which far exceeds the minimum service threshold set forth in the program rules. Also attached are screenshots from Spectrum's publicly-available service tool which describes the broadband internet products available to homes and businesses in Athol, Coeur d'Alene, Hayden Lake, Hauser, Bayview, Rathdrum, and Stateline. Therefore, Spectrum's service area constitutes a served area and is not eligible for funding under the State of Idaho Broadband Grant Application Program.

Any award of funding that overlaps Charter's network would frustrate the goals of the grant program – to bring broadband service to truly unserved areas. Spectrum encourages the Department to adhere to the program rules and reject the Application because there is verifiable information that the proposed project includes an area that is already being served by at least one provider, namely Spectrum, offering broadband service.

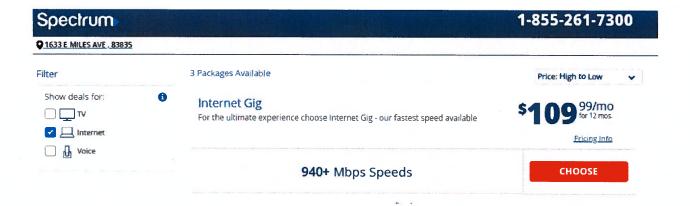
#### **Athol**

Spectrum		1-855-261-7300	
30355 N 3RD ST . 83801	1	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
Purchase an offer with In	sternet and you'll be eligible to shop Spackrum mobile:	LEARN MORE	
Filter	3 Packages Available	Price: High to Low	
Show deals for:	Internet Gig  For the ultimate experience choose Internet Gig - our fastest speed available	\$109 <sup>99/mo</sup> for 12 mos.	
/ Internet		Pricing Info	
	940+ Mbps Speeds	CHOOSE	
	→ Read more		

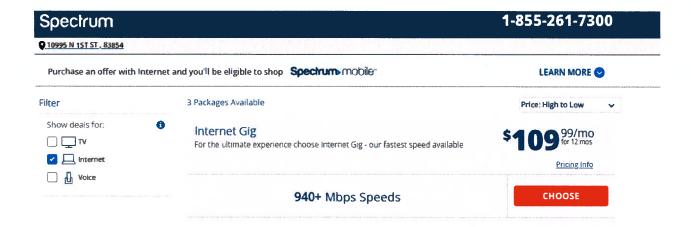
#### Coeur d'Alene



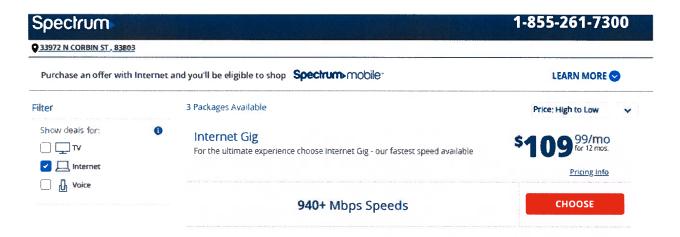
## **Hayden Lake**



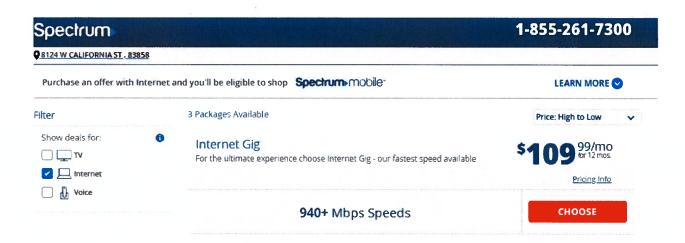
#### Hauser



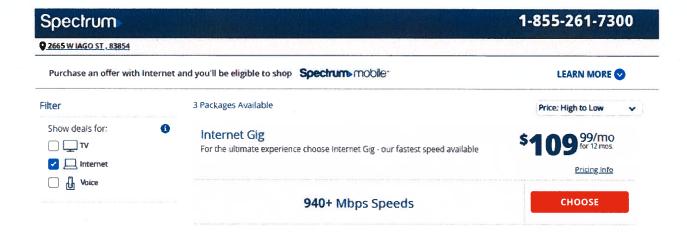
## **Bayview**



### Rathdrum



## Stateline



# AFFIDAVIT APP- 004204 Kootenai County - Jody Bieze

STATE OF WASHINGTON COUNTY OF CLARK, to wit.

I, Danielle Wade, being duly sworn, deposes and says as follows:

- 1. I am an Area Vice President, Field Operations for Charter Communications, Inc., a publicly-held Delaware corporation with a principal place of business at 400 Atlantic Street, Stamford, CT 0690l ("Charter"). I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth in this affidavit.
- 2. Charter is a provider of broadband internet services, among other products, and owns the cable system that provides broadband/high speed internet access (the "System") operated by Spectrum Pacific West, LLC in Kootenai County, Idaho. Specifically, Spectrum provides broadband services in Athol, Coeur d'Alene, Hayden Lake, Hauser, Bayview, parts of Rathdrum, and Stateline. Spectrum Pacific West, LLC is a Delaware limited liability company with a principal place of business in Missouri.
- 3. I am familiar with the System and hereby declare and confirm that, based on information and belief, the System is deployed in and architected, designed and constructed to deliver residential and business internet with a connection of up to 940 Mbps download/35 Mbps upload within the service territory that is the subject of Charter's Challenge to Kootenai County's Application for funding to overbuild Spectrum in the areas of Athol, Coeur d'Alene, Hayden Lake, Hauser, Bayview, parts of Rathdrum, and Stateline.

Further this affiant sayeth not.

[SIGNATURE PAGE FOLLOWS]

Subscribed and sworn before me, a not	cary public of and for the jurisdiction aforesaid, this wade, as AVP, Field Operations for Charter
day of, 2020, by Danielle	e Wade, as AVP, Field Operations for Charter
Communications, Inc., who affirmed that all o	f his declarations contained in the above affidavit
are true and correct.	
Tools 1-	*

Danielle Wade,

AVP, Field Operations for Charter Communications, Inc.

[SEAL]



Motary Public
My commission expires: 2

#### APP-004205 Kootenai County - Jody Bieze

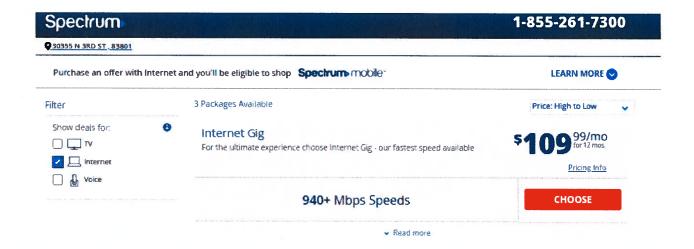
Spectrum Pacific West, LLC files this Challenge because the named applicant's proposed grant project includes an area that is already being served by at least one provider offering broadband service namely, Spectrum. Spectrum holds a statewide cable television franchise and has provided service to the area for many years. Kootenai County's application for a grant from the State of Idaho Broadband Grant Program must be rejected because significant portions of the proposed network buildout overbuilds services already in place by Spectrum. This application provides for improvements and services to areas using fixed wireless technology, which uses towers to transmit internet wirelessly across distances. The towers and areas proposed in this application, and the other applications Spectrum is challenging that were submitted by Kootenai County, are part of a network of towers that rely on each other and are each needed to provide services. Here, the applicant proposes to replace or modify towers in locations where Spectrum does not provide broadband services, however, the towers will transmit broadband into areas already served by Spectrum. Specifically, the proposed project states that it intends to support a fixed wireless expansion to serve many communities, including, Athol, Coeur d'Alene, Hayden Lake, Hauser, Bayview, parts of Rathdrum, and Stateline. Spectrum currently provides services to all of these areas and communities. See Affidavit of Danielle Wade. Granting this application would be in violation of the statutory funding requirement.

The grant funding rules found in "State of Idaho Broadband Grant Application: households" provides that applications must "be a project that serves underbuilt areas and does not overbuild existing broadband service." Section (2)(A)(iii) (emphasis added.) This overbuild restriction is reiterated later in the rules under the section titled "application." This rule sets forth a two-step test to determine eligibility. First, be a project that serves underbuilt areas, which is defined as less than fifty percent of households in the project area. Second, must not overbuild existing broadband service. As demonstrated in Danielle Wade's affidavit, Spectrum's high speed broadband network is already

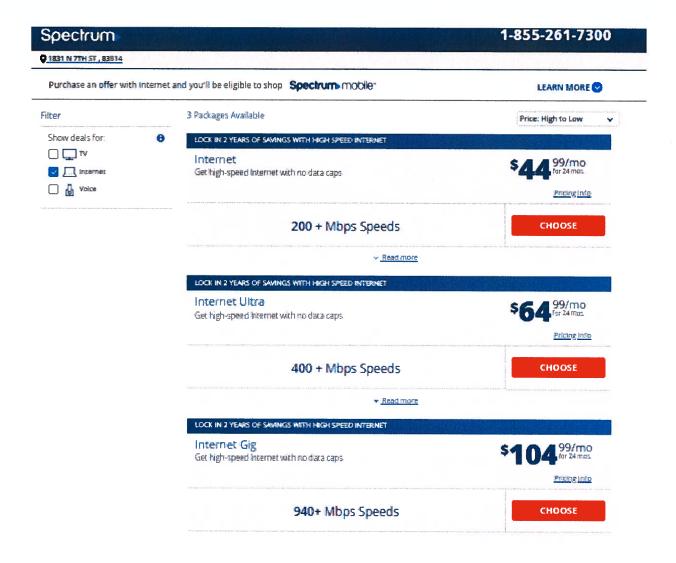
available in the proposed service area identified in the application and currently offers speeds up to 940/35 Mbps service – which far exceeds the minimum service threshold set forth in the program rules. Also attached are screenshots from Spectrum's publicly-available service tool which describes the broadband internet products available to homes and businesses in Athol, Coeur d'Alene, Hayden Lake, Hauser, Bayview, Rathdrum, and Stateline. Therefore, Spectrum's service area constitutes a served area and is not eligible for funding under the State of Idaho Broadband Grant Application Program.

Any award of funding that overlaps Charter's network would frustrate the goals of the grant program – to bring broadband service to truly unserved areas. Spectrum encourages the Department to adhere to the program rules and reject the Application because there is verifiable information that the proposed project includes an area that is already being served by at least one provider, namely Spectrum, offering broadband service.

## **Athol**



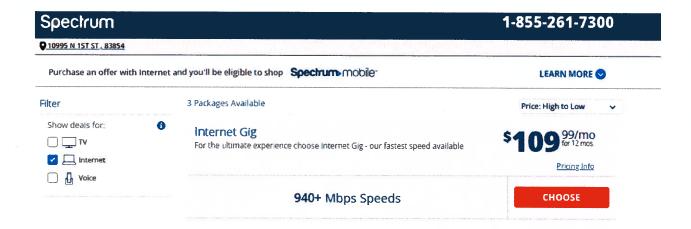
#### Coeur d'Alene



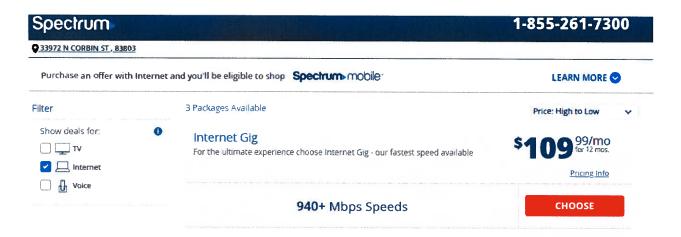
## **Hayden Lake**



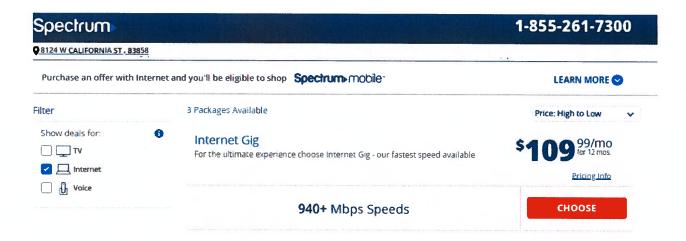
#### Hauser



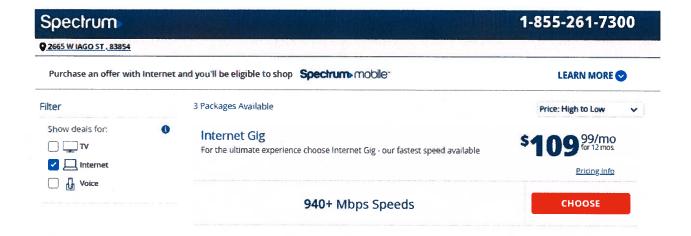
#### **Bayview**



#### Rathdrum



## Stateline



# AFFIDAVIT APP- 004205 Kootenai County - Jody Bieze

STATE OF WASHINGTON COUNTY OF CLARK, to wit.

I, Danielle Wade, being duly sworn, deposes and says as follows:

- 1. I am an Area Vice President, Field Operations for Charter Communications, Inc., a publicly-held Delaware corporation with a principal place of business at 400 Atlantic Street, Stamford, CT 0690l ("Charter"). I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth in this affidavit.
- 2. Charter is a provider of broadband internet services, among other products, and owns the cable system that provides broadband/high speed internet access (the "System") operated by Spectrum Pacific West, LLC in Kootenai County, Idaho. Specifically, Spectrum provides broadband services in Athol, Coeur d'Alene, Hayden Lake, Hauser, Bayview, parts of Rathdrum, and Stateline. Spectrum Pacific West, LLC is a Delaware limited liability company with a principal place of business in Missouri.
- 3. I am familiar with the System and hereby declare and confirm that, based on information and belief, the System is deployed in and architected, designed and constructed to deliver residential and business internet with a connection of up to 940 Mbps download/35 Mbps upload within the service territory that is the subject of Charter's Challenge to Kootenai County's Application for funding to overbuild Spectrum in the areas of Athol, Coeur d'Alene, Hayden Lake, Hauser, Bayview, parts of Rathdrum, and Stateline.

Further this affiant sayeth not.

[SIGNATURE PAGE FOLLOWS]

Subscribed and sworn before me, a notary public of and for the jurisdiction aforesaid, this day of, 2020, by Danielle Wade, as AVP, Field Operations for Charter
Communications, Ind., who affirmed that all of his declarations contained in the above affidavit
are true and correct.
There
Danielle Wade,
AVP, Field Operations for Charter Communications, Inc.

[SEAL]



Notary Public
My commission expires: 2-23-20

Sec. Av.

ş - i

#### APP-004191 Kootenai County - Jody Bieze

Spectrum Pacific West, LLC files this Challenge because the named applicant's proposed grant project includes an area that is already being served by at least one provider offering broadband service - namely, Spectrum. Spectrum holds a statewide cable television franchise and has provided service to the area for many years. Kootenai County's application for a grant from the State of Idaho Broadband Grant Program must be rejected because significant portions of the proposed network buildout overbuilds services already in place by Spectrum. This application provides for improvements and services to areas using fixed wireless technology, which uses towers to transmit internet wirelessly across distances. The towers and areas proposed in this application, and the other applications Spectrum is challenging that were submitted by Kootenai County, are part of a network of towers that rely on each other and are each needed to provide services. Here, the applicant proposes to replace or modify towers in locations where Spectrum does not provide broadband services, however, the towers will transmit broadband into areas already served by Spectrum. Specifically, the proposed project states that it intends to support a fixed wireless expansion to serve many communities, including, Athol, Coeur d'Alene, Hayden Lake, Hauser, Bayview, parts of Rathdrum, and Stateline. Spectrum currently provides services to all of these areas and communities. See Affidavit of Danielle Wade. Granting this application would be in violation of the statutory funding requirement.

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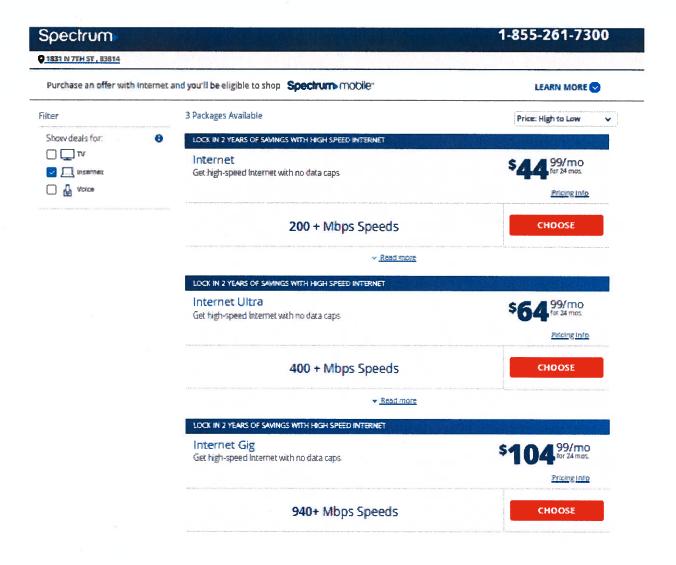
available in the proposed service area identified in the application and currently offers speeds up to 940/35 Mbps service – which far exceeds the minimum service threshold set forth in the program rules. Also attached are screenshots from Spectrum's publicly-available service tool which describes the broadband internet products available to homes and businesses in Athol, Coeur d'Alene, Hayden Lake, Hauser, Bayview, Rathdrum, and Stateline. Therefore, Spectrum's service area constitutes a served area and is not eligible for funding under the State of Idaho Broadband Grant Application Program.

Any award of funding that overlaps Charter's network would frustrate the goals of the grant program – to bring broadband service to truly unserved areas. Spectrum encourages the Department to adhere to the program rules and reject the Application because there is verifiable information that the proposed project includes an area that is already being served by at least one provider, namely Spectrum, offering broadband service.

## **Athol**

Spectrum		1-855-261-7300
30355 N 3RD ST , 83801		
Purchase an offer with In	sternet and you'll be eligible to shop Spackrum mobile	LEARN MORE
Filter	3 Packages Available	Price: High to Low
Show deals for:	Internet Gig  For the ultimate experience choose Internet Gig - our fastest speed available	\$109 <sup>99/mo</sup> for 12 mas.
✓ ☐ Internet		Pricing Info
	940+ Mbps Speeds	CHOOSE
	Read more	

## Coeur d'Alene



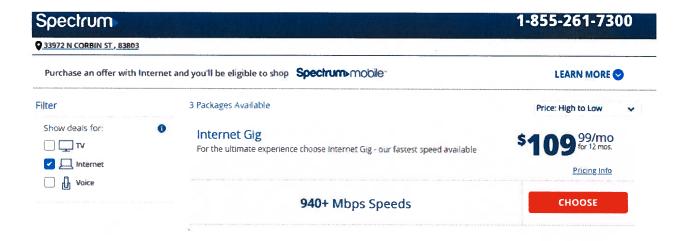
## **Hayden Lake**



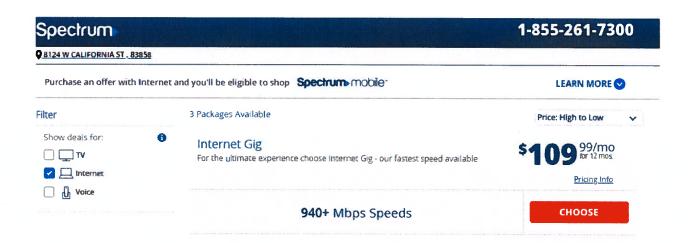
#### Hauser



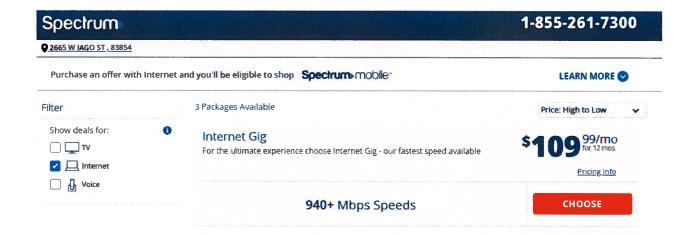
#### **Bayview**



### Rathdrum



## **Stateline**



# AFFIDAVIT APP- 004191 Kootenai County - Jody Bieze

STATE OF WASHINGTON COUNTY OF CLARK, to wit.

I, Danielle Wade, being duly sworn, deposes and says as follows:

- 1. I am an Area Vice President, Field Operations for Charter Communications, Inc., a publicly-held Delaware corporation with a principal place of business at 400 Atlantic Street, Stamford, CT 0690l ("Charter"). I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth in this affidavit.
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Further this affiant sayeth not.

[SIGNATURE PAGE FOLLOWS]

	V.	
	5000	

Subscribed and sworn before me, a notary day of, 2020, by Danielle W Communications, Inc., who affirmed that all of h	y public of and for the jurisdiction aforesaid, this rade, as AVP, Field Operations for Charter is declarations contained in the above affidavit
are true and correct.	
Thehar	
Danielle Wade,	
AVP, Field Operations for Charter Communication	ons, Inc.
	Ataska Myma Ams ary Public commission expires: 2-23

#### APP- 004192 Kootenai County - Jody Bieze

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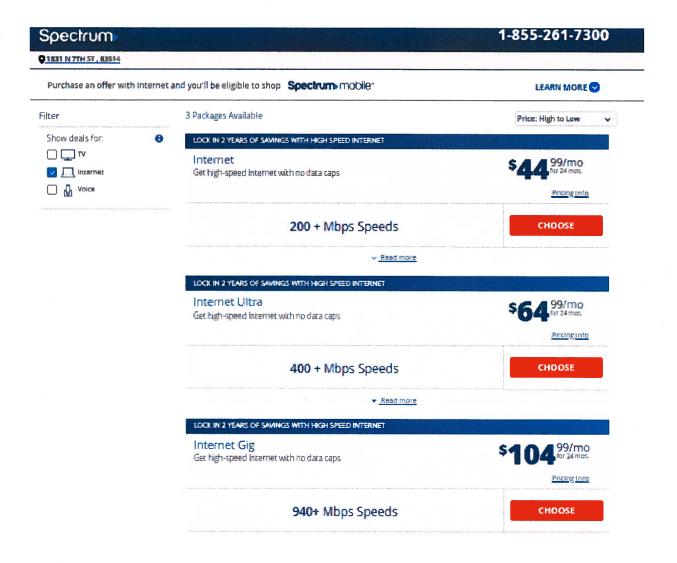
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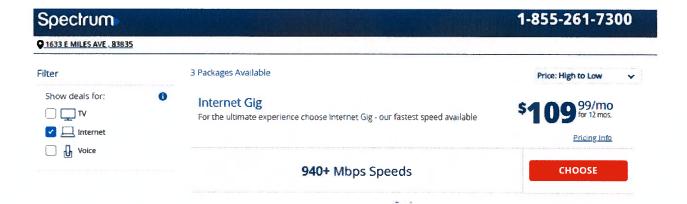
## Athol

Spectrum		1-855-261-7300
© 30355 N 3RD ST , 83801		
Purchase an offer with In	ternet and you'll be eligible to shop Spectrum mobile	LEARN MORE 📀
Filter	3 Packages Available	Price: High to Low
Show deals for.  TV  Internet	Internet Gig  For the ultimate experience choose Internet Gig - our fastest speed available	\$109 99/mo for 12 mos.
☐ ♣ Voice		Pricing Info
en colonia i librario indicato di Salama ante- il compania con	940+ Mbps Speeds	CHOOSE
	✓ Read more	

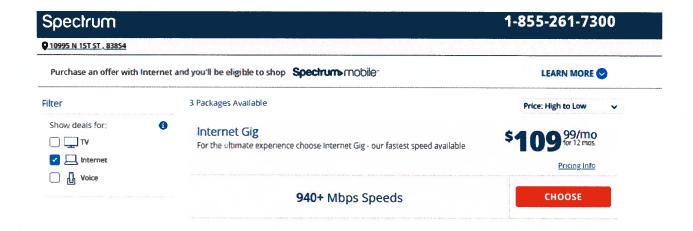
#### Coeur d'Alene



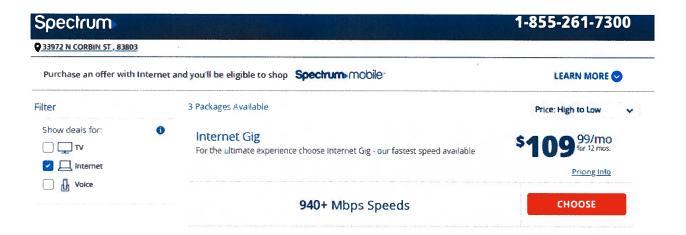
## **Hayden Lake**



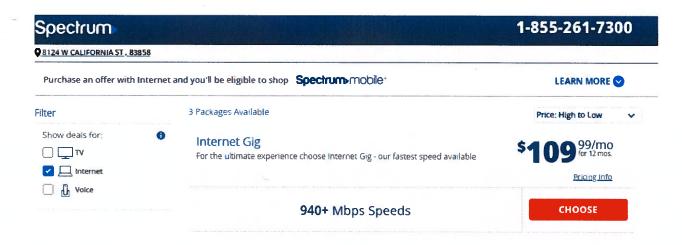
#### Hauser



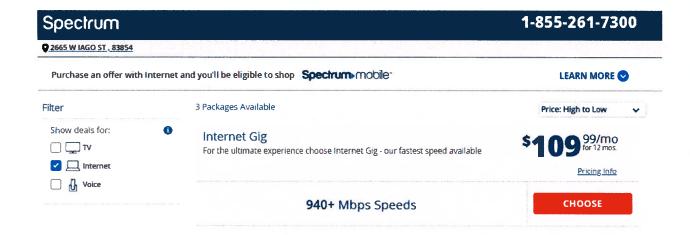
## **Bayview**



## Rathdrum



## Stateline



# AFFIDAVIT APP- 004192 Kootenai County - Jody Bieze

STATE OF WASHINGTON COUNTY OF CLARK, to wit.

- I, Danielle Wade, being duly sworn, deposes and says as follows:
- 1. I am an Area Vice President, Field Operations for Charter Communications, Inc., a publicly-held Delaware corporation with a principal place of business at 400 Atlantic Street, Stamford, CT 0690l ("Charter"). I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth in this affidavit.
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Further this affiant sayeth not.

[SIGNATURE PAGE FOLLOWS]

$\wedge$
Subscribed and sworn before me, a notary public of and for the jurisdiction aforesaid, this
Subscribed and sworn before me, a notary public of and for the jurisdiction aforesaid, this day of, 2020, by Danielle Wade, as AVP, Field Operations for Charter
Communications, Inc., who affirmed that all of his declarations contained in the above affidavit
are true and correct.
My hade

Danielle Wade, AVP, Field Operations for Charter Communications, Inc.

[SEAL]



Notary Public
My commission expires: 2-12-23



## APP- 004188 Kootenai County - Jody Bieze

Spectrum Pacific West, LLC files this Challenge because the named applicant's proposed grant project includes an area that is already being served by at least one provider offering broadband service - namely, Spectrum. Spectrum holds a statewide cable television franchise and has provided service to the area for many years. Kootenai County's application for a grant from the State of Idaho Broadband Grant Program must be rejected because significant portions of the proposed network buildout overbuilds services already in place by Spectrum. This application provides for improvements and services to areas using fixed wireless technology, which uses towers to transmit internet wirelessly across distances. The towers and areas proposed in this application, and the other applications Spectrum is challenging that were submitted by Kootenai County, are part of a network of towers that rely on each other and are each needed to provide services. Here, the applicant proposes to replace or modify towers in locations where Spectrum does not provide broadband services, however, the towers will transmit broadband into areas already served by Spectrum. Specifically, the proposed project states that it intends to support a fixed wireless expansion to serve many communities, including, Athol, Coeur d'Alene, Hayden Lake, Hauser, Bayview, parts of Rathdrum, and Stateline. Spectrum currently provides services to all of these areas and communities. See Affidavit of Danielle Wade. Granting this application would be in violation of the statutory funding requirement.

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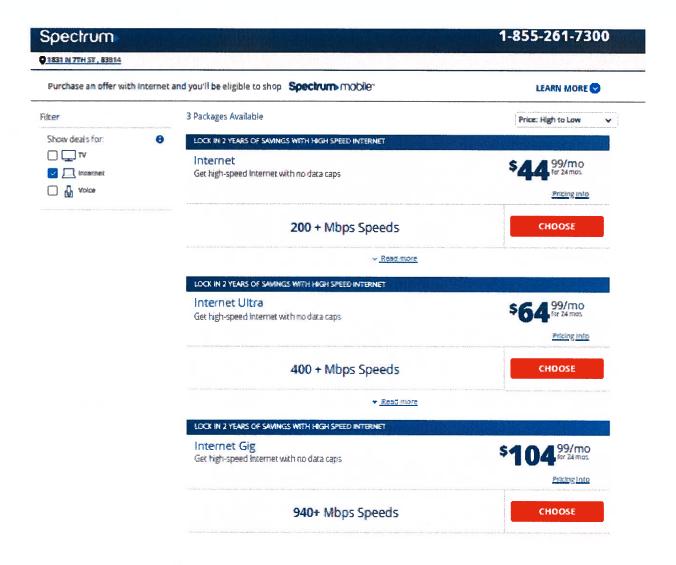
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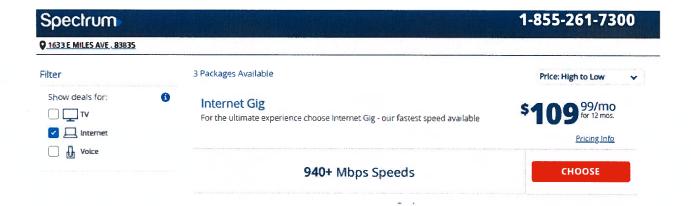
## **Athol**

Spectrum	1-855-261-7300		
30355 N 3RD ST . 83801			
Purchase an offer with In	sternet and you'll be eligible to shop Spectrum mobile:	LEARN MORE	
Filter	3 Packages Available	Price: High to Low	
Show deals for:	Internet Gig  For the ultimate experience choose Internet Gig - our fastest speed available	\$109 <sup>99/mo</sup> for 12 mos.	
Internet    L Voice		Pricing Info	
	940+ Mbps Speeds	CHOOSE	
	→ Read more		

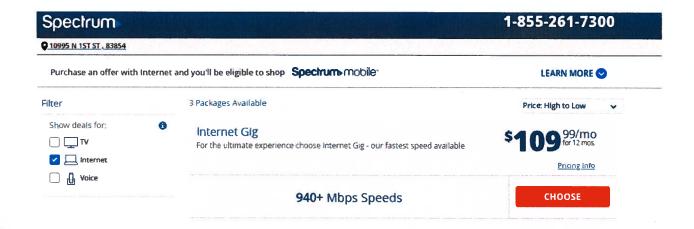
## Coeur d'Alene



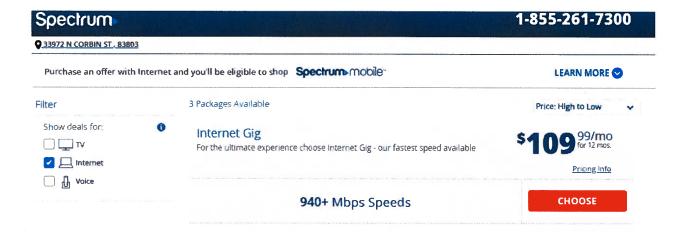
## **Hayden Lake**



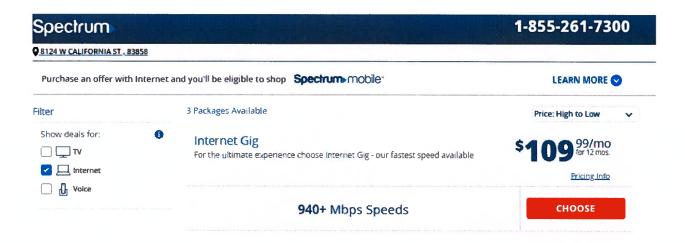
#### Hauser



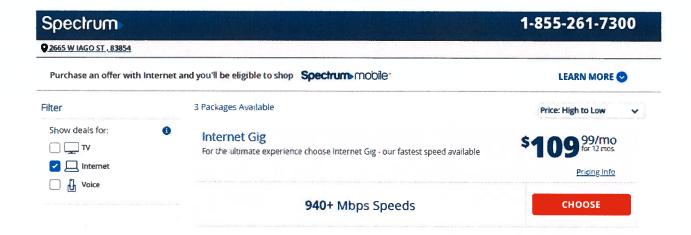
## **Bayview**



#### Rathdrum



## Stateline



# AFFIDAVIT APP- 004188 Kootenai County - Jody Bieze

STATE OF WASHINGTON COUNTY OF CLARK, to wit.

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Further this affiant sayeth not.

[SIGNATURE PAGE FOLLOWS]

	efore me, a notary public of and for the jurisdiction aforesaid, this 20, by Danielle Wade, as AVP, Field Operations for Charter rmed that all of his declarations contained in the above affidavit
are true and correct.	
Thomas	
Danielle Wade,	<del></del>
AVP, Field Operations for Char	ter Communications, Inc.
[SEAL]	Notary Public My commission expires: 2-12-23
NOTARY	wiy commission expires.



## APP- 004189 Kootenai County - Jody Bieze

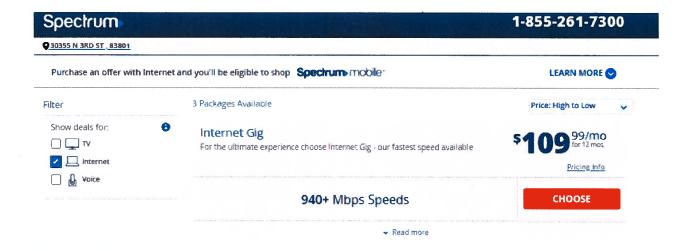
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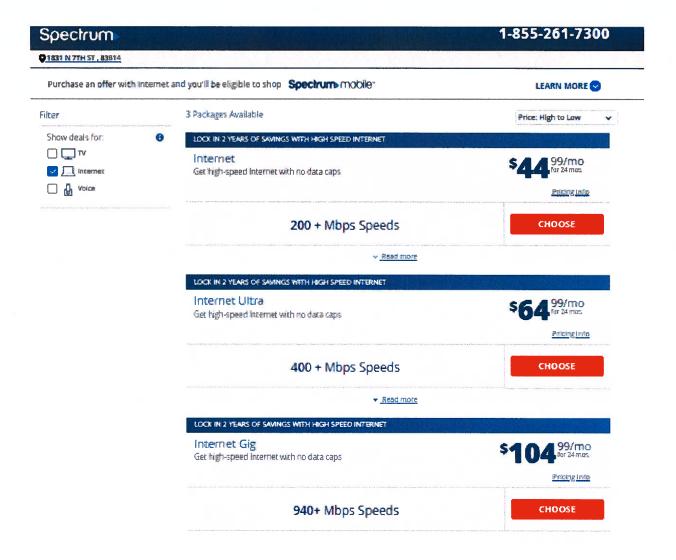
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#### **Athol**



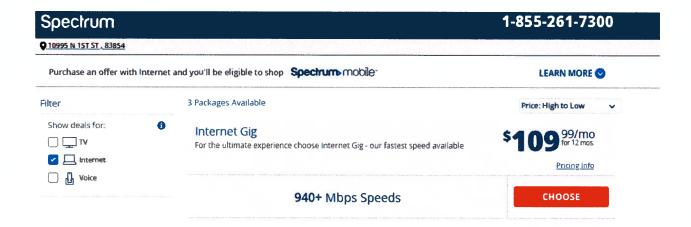
## Coeur d'Alene



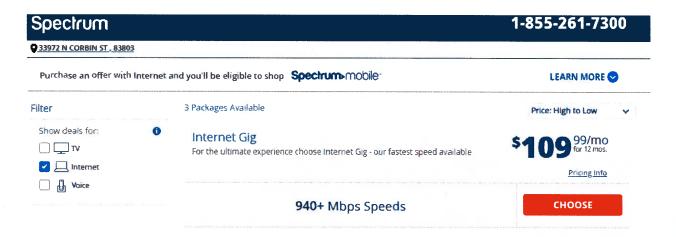
## **Hayden Lake**



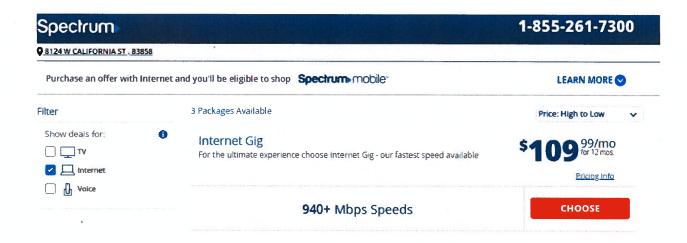
#### Hauser



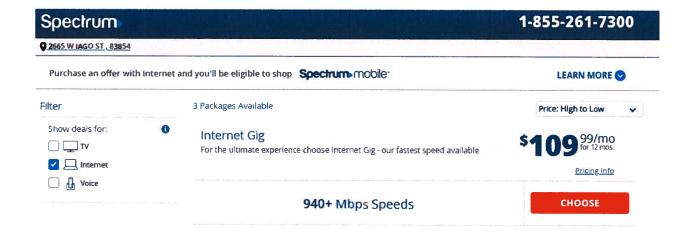
## **Bayview**



## Rathdrum



## Stateline



# AFFIDAVIT APP- 004189 Kootenai County - Jody Bieze

STATE OF WASHINGTON COUNTY OF CLARK, to wit.

I, Danielle Wade, being duly sworn, deposes and says as follows:

- 1. I am an Area Vice President, Field Operations for Charter Communications, Inc., a publicly-held Delaware corporation with a principal place of business at 400 Atlantic Street, Stamford, CT 0690l ("Charter"). I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth in this affidavit.
- 2. Charter is a provider of broadband internet services, among other products, and owns the cable system that provides broadband/high speed internet access (the "System") operated by Spectrum Pacific West, LLC in Kootenai County, Idaho. Specifically, Spectrum provides broadband services in Athol, Coeur d'Alene, Hayden Lake, Hauser, Bayview, parts of Rathdrum, and Stateline. Spectrum Pacific West, LLC is a Delaware limited liability company with a principal place of business in Missouri.
- 3. I am familiar with the System and hereby declare and confirm that, based on information and belief, the System is deployed in and architected, designed and constructed to deliver residential and business internet with a connection of up to 940 Mbps download/35 Mbps upload within the service territory that is the subject of Charter's Challenge to Kootenai County's Application for funding to overbuild Spectrum in the areas of Athol, Coeur d'Alene, Hayden Lake, Hauser, Bayview, parts of Rathdrum, and Stateline.

Further this affiant sayeth not.

[SIGNATURE PAGE FOLLOWS]

Subscribed and sworn before me, a notary public of and for the jurisdiction aforesaid, this day of, 2020, by Danielle Wade, as AVP, Field Operations for Charter
Communications, Inc., who affirmed that all of his declarations contained in the above affidavit
are true and correct.
Delas
Danielle Wade,
AVP, Field Operations for Charter Communications, Inc.

[SEAL]

Notary Public
My commission expires: 2-12-23



## APP- 004207 Kootenai County - Jody Bieze

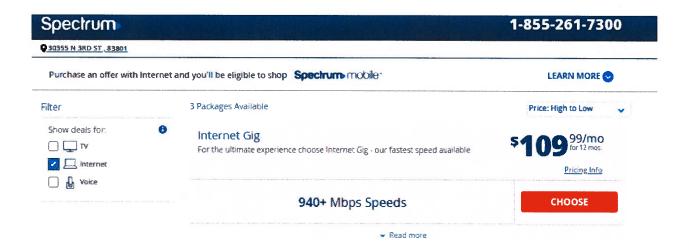
Spectrum Pacific West, LLC files this Challenge because the named applicant's proposed grant project includes an area that is already being served by at least one provider offering broadband service - namely, Spectrum. Spectrum holds a statewide cable television franchise and has provided service to the area for many years. Kootenai County's application for a grant from the State of Idaho Broadband Grant Program must be rejected because significant portions of the proposed network buildout overbuilds services already in place by Spectrum. This application provides for improvements and services to areas using fixed wireless technology, which uses towers to transmit internet wirelessly across distances. The towers and areas proposed in this application, and the other applications Spectrum is challenging that were submitted by Kootenai County, are part of a network of towers that rely on each other and are each needed to provide services. Here, the applicant proposes to replace or modify towers in locations where Spectrum does not provide broadband services, however, the towers will transmit broadband into areas already served by Spectrum. Specifically, the proposed project states that it intends to support a fixed wireless expansion to serve many communities, including, Athol, Coeur d'Alene, Hayden Lake, Hauser, Bayview, parts of Rathdrum, and Stateline. Spectrum currently provides services to all of these areas and communities. See Affidavit of Danielle Wade. Granting this application would be in violation of the statutory funding requirement.

The grant funding rules found in "State of Idaho Broadband Grant Application: households" provides that applications must "be a project that serves underbuilt areas and does not overbuild existing broadband service." Section (2)(A)(iii) (emphasis added.) This overbuild restriction is reiterated later in the rules under the section titled "application." This rule sets forth a two-step test to determine eligibility. First, be a project that serves underbuilt areas, which is defined as less than fifty percent of households in the project area. Second, must not overbuild existing broadband service. As demonstrated in Danielle Wade's affidavit, Spectrum's high speed broadband network is already

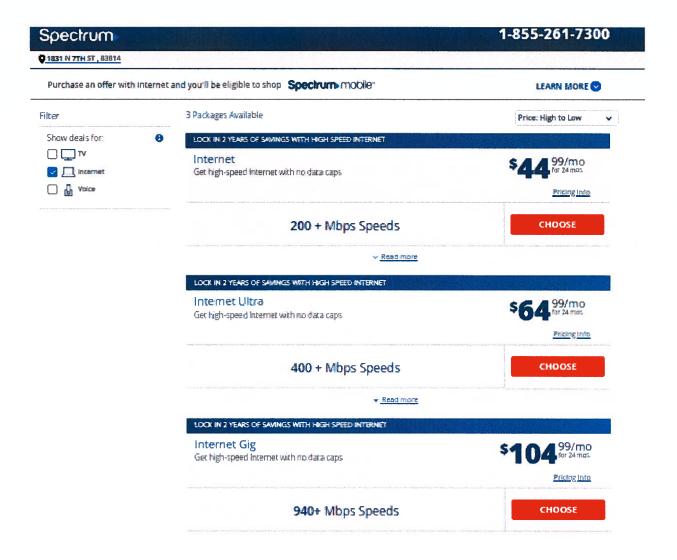
available in the proposed service area identified in the application and currently offers speeds up to 940/35 Mbps service – which far exceeds the minimum service threshold set forth in the program rules. Also attached are screenshots from Spectrum's publicly-available service tool which describes the broadband internet products available to homes and businesses in Athol, Coeur d'Alene, Hayden Lake, Hauser, Bayview, Rathdrum, and Stateline. Therefore, Spectrum's service area constitutes a served area and is not eligible for funding under the State of Idaho Broadband Grant Application Program.

Any award of funding that overlaps Charter's network would frustrate the goals of the grant program – to bring broadband service to truly unserved areas. Spectrum encourages the Department to adhere to the program rules and reject the Application because there is verifiable information that the proposed project includes an area that is already being served by at least one provider, namely Spectrum, offering broadband service.

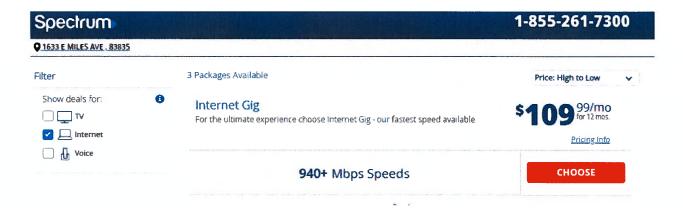
## **Athol**



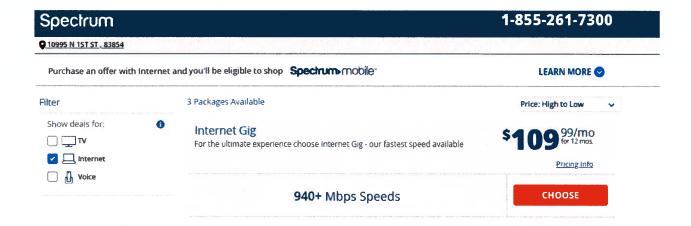
## Coeur d'Alene



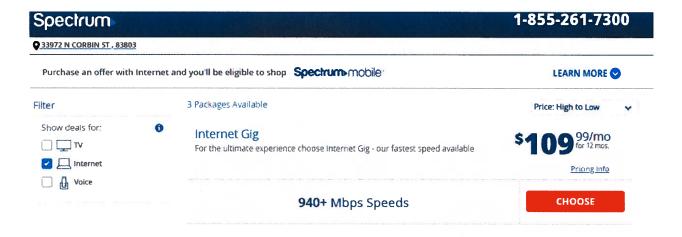
## **Hayden Lake**



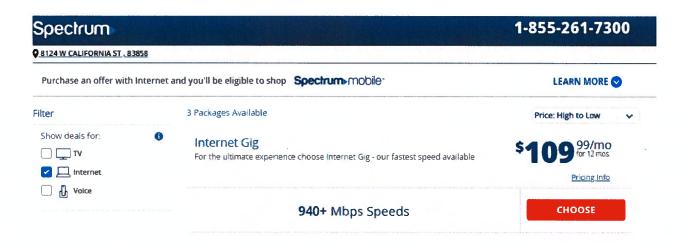
#### Hauser



#### **Bayview**



#### Rathdrum



# Stateline

Spectrum					
© 2665 W IAGO ST , 83854					
net and you'll be eligible to shop Spectrum-mobile	LEARN MORE				
3 Packages Available	Price: High to Low				
Internet Gig For the ultimate experience choose Internet Gig - our fastest speed available	\$109 99/mo for 12 mos. Prising Info				
940+ Mbps Speeds	CHOOSE				
	Internet Gig For the ultimate experience choose Internet Gig - our fastest speed available				

# AFFIDAVIT APP- 004207 Kootenai County - Jody Bieze

STATE OF WASHINGTON COUNTY OF CLARK, to wit.

I, Danielle Wade, being duly sworn, deposes and says as follows:

- 1. I am an Area Vice President, Field Operations for Charter Communications, Inc., a publicly-held Delaware corporation with a principal place of business at 400 Atlantic Street, Stamford, CT 0690l ("Charter"). I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth in this affidavit.
- 2. Charter is a provider of broadband internet services, among other products, and owns the cable system that provides broadband/high speed internet access (the "System") operated by Spectrum Pacific West, LLC in Kootenai County, Idaho. Specifically, Spectrum provides broadband services in Athol, Coeur d'Alene, Hayden Lake, Hauser, Bayview, parts of Rathdrum, and Stateline. Spectrum Pacific West, LLC is a Delaware limited liability company with a principal place of business in Missouri.
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Further this affiant sayeth not.

[SIGNATURE PAGE FOLLOWS]

2020, by Dai	a notary public of and for the jurisdiction aforesaid, this nielle Wade, as AVP, Field Operations for Charter all of his declarations contained in the above affidavit
are true and correct.	
Danielle Wade,	
AVP, Field Operations for Charter Comn	nunications. Inc.
[SEAL]  HURMAN  OTARY  OTARY  PUBLIC  FYRIBES OF	Notary Public My commission expires: 2-12-23



## APP-004210 Kootenai County - Jody Bieze

Spectrum Pacific West, LLC files this Challenge because the named applicant's proposed grant project includes an area that is already being served by at least one provider offering broadband service - namely, Spectrum. Spectrum holds a statewide cable television franchise and has provided service to the area for many years. Kootenai County's application for a grant from the State of Idaho Broadband Grant Program must be rejected because significant portions of the proposed network buildout overbuilds services already in place by Spectrum. This application provides for improvements and services to areas using fixed wireless technology, which uses towers to transmit internet wirelessly across distances. The towers and areas proposed in this application, and the other applications Spectrum is challenging that were submitted by Kootenai County, are part of a network of towers that rely on each other and are each needed to provide services. Here, the applicant proposes to replace or modify towers in locations where Spectrum does not provide broadband services, however, the towers will transmit broadband into areas already served by Spectrum. Specifically, the proposed project states that it intends to support a fixed wireless expansion to serve many communities, including, Athol, Coeur d'Alene, Hayden Lake, Hauser, Bayview, parts of Rathdrum, and Stateline. Spectrum currently provides services to all of these areas and communities. See Affidavit of Danielle Wade. Granting this application would be in violation of the statutory funding requirement.

The grant funding rules found in "State of Idaho Broadband Grant Application: households" provides that applications must "be a project that serves underbuilt areas and does not overbuild existing broadband service." Section (2)(A)(iii) (emphasis added.) This overbuild restriction is reiterated later in the rules under the section titled "application." This rule sets forth a two-step test to determine eligibility. First, be a project that serves underbuilt areas, which is defined as less than fifty percent of households in the project area. Second, must not overbuild existing broadband service. As demonstrated in Danielle Wade's affidavit, Spectrum's high speed broadband network is already

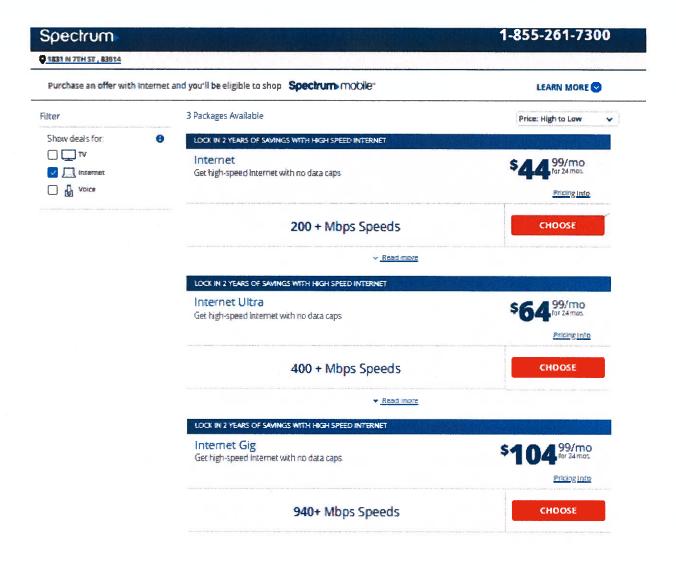
available in the proposed service area identified in the application and currently offers speeds up to 940/35 Mbps service – which far exceeds the minimum service threshold set forth in the program rules. Also attached are screenshots from Spectrum's publicly-available service tool which describes the broadband internet products available to homes and businesses in Athol, Coeur d'Alene, Hayden Lake, Hauser, Bayview, Rathdrum, and Stateline. Therefore, Spectrum's service area constitutes a served area and is not eligible for funding under the State of Idaho Broadband Grant Application Program.

Any award of funding that overlaps Charter's network would frustrate the goals of the grant program – to bring broadband service to truly unserved areas. Spectrum encourages the Department to adhere to the program rules and reject the Application because there is verifiable information that the proposed project includes an area that is already being served by at least one provider, namely Spectrum, offering broadband service.

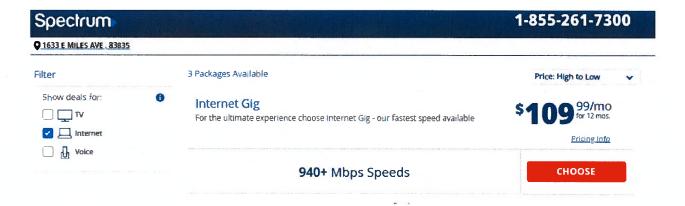
## **Athol**

Spectrum	1-855-261-7300	
© 30355 N 3RD ST , 83801		
Purchase an offer with In	nternet and you'll be eligible to shop Spectrum mobile:	LEARN MORE
Filter	3 Packages Available	Price: High to Low
Show deals for:  IV  Internet	Internet Gig  For the ultimate experience choose Internet Gig - our fastest speed as	
☐ <b>Û</b> Voice		Pricing Info
	940+ Mbps Speeds	CHOOSE
	→ Read more	promote were transported to the second of th

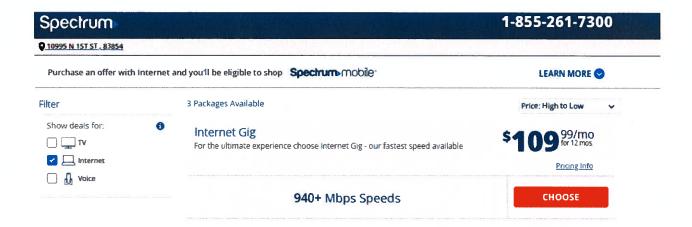
## Coeur d'Alene



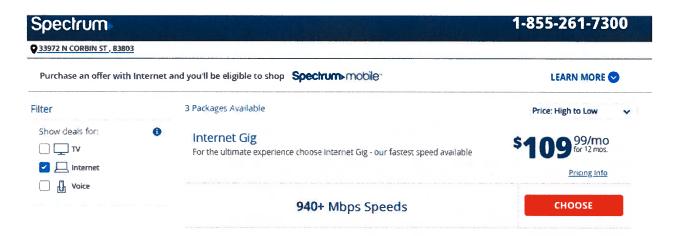
## **Hayden Lake**



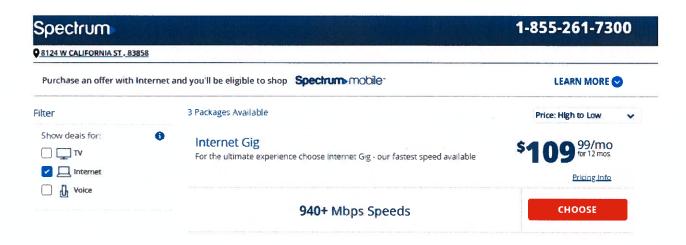
#### Hauser



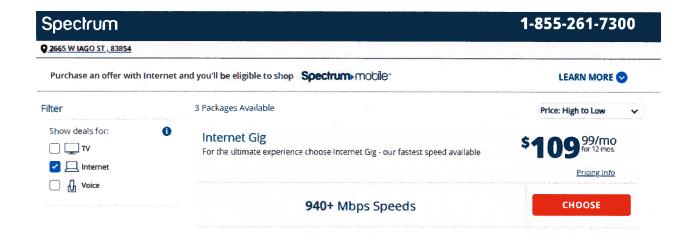
#### **Bayview**



#### Rathdrum



## Stateline



# AFFIDAVIT APP- 004210 Kootenai County - Jody Bieze

STATE OF WASHINGTON COUNTY OF CLARK, to wit.

I, Danielle Wade, being duly sworn, deposes and says as follows:

- 1. I am an Area Vice President, Field Operations for Charter Communications, Inc., a publicly-held Delaware corporation with a principal place of business at 400 Atlantic Street, Stamford, CT 0690l ("Charter"). I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth in this affidavit.
- 2. Charter is a provider of broadband internet services, among other products, and owns the cable system that provides broadband/high speed internet access (the "System") operated by Spectrum Pacific West, LLC in Kootenai County, Idaho. Specifically, Spectrum provides broadband services in Athol, Coeur d'Alene, Hayden Lake, Hauser, Bayview, parts of Rathdrum, and Stateline. Spectrum Pacific West, LLC is a Delaware limited liability company with a principal place of business in Missouri.
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Further this affiant sayeth not.

[SIGNATURE PAGE FOLLOWS]

			20	

Subscribed and sworn before me, a notary public of and for the jurisdiction aforesaid, this \_, 2020, by Danielle Wade, as AVP, Field Operations for Charter Communications, Inc., who affirmed that all of his declarations contained in the above affidavit are true and correct. Danielle Wade,

[SEAL]

AVP, Field Operations for Charter Communications, Inc.

Notary Public
My commission expires: 2-12-23

## APP- 004209 Kootenai County - Jody Bieze

Spectrum Pacific West, LLC files this Challenge because the named applicant's proposed grant project includes an area that is already being served by at least one provider offering broadband service - namely, Spectrum. Spectrum holds a statewide cable television franchise and has provided service to the area for many years. Kootenai County's application for a grant from the State of Idaho Broadband Grant Program must be rejected because significant portions of the proposed network buildout overbuilds services already in place by Spectrum. This application provides for improvements and services to areas using fixed wireless technology, which uses towers to transmit internet wirelessly across distances. The towers and areas proposed in this application, and the other applications Spectrum is challenging that were submitted by Kootenai County, are part of a network of towers that rely on each other and are each needed to provide services. Here, the applicant proposes to replace or modify towers in locations where Spectrum does not provide broadband services, however, the towers will transmit broadband into areas already served by Spectrum. Specifically, the proposed project states that it intends to support a fixed wireless expansion to serve many communities, including, Athol, Coeur d'Alene, Hayden Lake, Hauser, Bayview, parts of Rathdrum, and Stateline. Spectrum currently provides services to all of these areas and communities. See Affidavit of Danielle Wade. Granting this application would be in violation of the statutory funding requirement.

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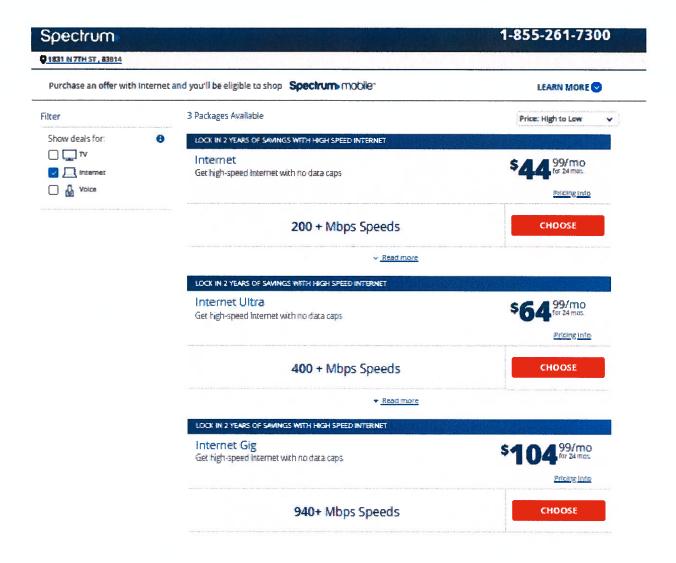
available in the proposed service area identified in the application and currently offers speeds up to 940/35 Mbps service – which far exceeds the minimum service threshold set forth in the program rules. Also attached are screenshots from Spectrum's publicly-available service tool which describes the broadband internet products available to homes and businesses in Athol, Coeur d'Alene, Hayden Lake, Hauser, Bayview, Rathdrum, and Stateline. Therefore, Spectrum's service area constitutes a served area and is not eligible for funding under the State of Idaho Broadband Grant Application Program.

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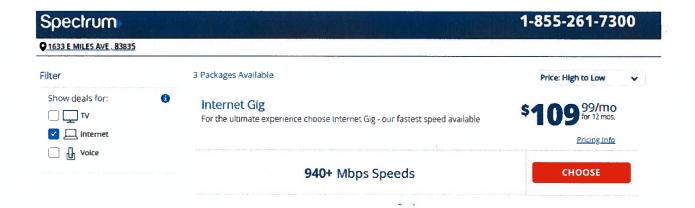
## **Athol**

Spectrum		1-855-261-7300
30355 N 3RD ST 83801		
Purchase an offer with In	nternet and you'll be eligible to shop Spectrum mobile:	LEARN MORE
Filter	3 Packages Available	Price: High to Low
Show deals for:	Internet Gig  For the ultimate experience choose Internet Gig - our fastest speed available	\$109 99/mo for 12 mos.
/ Uniternet		Pricing Info
	940+ Mbps Speeds	CHOOSE
	₩ Sead more	

#### Coeur d'Alene



## **Hayden Lake**

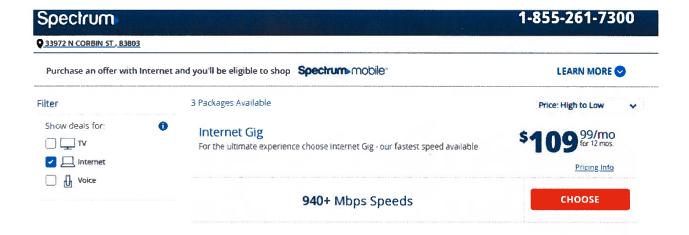


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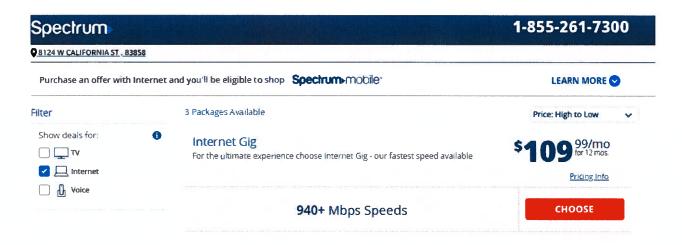
#### Hauser



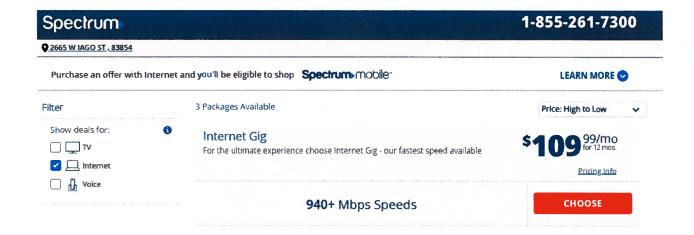
### **Bayview**



#### Rathdrum



## **Stateline**



# AFFIDAVIT APP- 004209 Kootenai County - Jody Bieze

STATE OF WASHINGTON COUNTY OF CLARK, to wit.

I, Danielle Wade, being duly sworn, deposes and says as follows:

- 1. I am an Area Vice President, Field Operations for Charter Communications, Inc., a publicly-held Delaware corporation with a principal place of business at 400 Atlantic Street, Stamford, CT 0690l ("Charter"). I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth in this affidavit.
- 2. Charter is a provider of broadband internet services, among other products, and owns the cable system that provides broadband/high speed internet access (the "System") operated by Spectrum Pacific West, LLC in Kootenai County, Idaho. Specifically, Spectrum provides broadband services in Athol, Coeur d'Alene, Hayden Lake, Hauser, Bayview, parts of Rathdrum, and Stateline. Spectrum Pacific West, LLC is a Delaware limited liability company with a principal place of business in Missouri.
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Further this affiant sayeth not.

[SIGNATURE PAGE FOLLOWS]

An Subse	cribed and sworn before me, a notary public of and for the jurisdiction aforesaid, this
day of	cribed and sworn before me, a notary public of and for the jurisdiction aforesaid, this, 2020, by Danielle Wade, as AVP, Field Operations for Charter
Communicat	ions, Ind., who affirmed that all of his declarations contained in the above affidavit
are true and	correct.

AVP, Field Operations for Charter Communications, Inc.

[SEAL]



My commission expires: 2-12-23

#### APP- 004211 Kootenai County - Jody Bieze

Spectrum Pacific West, LLC files this Challenge because the named applicant's proposed grant project includes an area that is already being served by at least one provider offering broadband service namely, Spectrum. Spectrum holds a statewide cable television franchise and has provided service to the area for many years. Kootenai County's application for a grant from the State of Idaho Broadband Grant Program must be rejected because significant portions of the proposed network buildout overbuilds services already in place by Spectrum. This application provides for improvements and services to areas using fixed wireless technology, which uses towers to transmit internet wirelessly across distances. The towers and areas proposed in this application, and the other applications Spectrum is challenging that were submitted by Kootenai County, are part of a network of towers that rely on each other and are each needed to provide services. Here, the applicant proposes to replace or modify towers in locations where Spectrum does not provide broadband services, however, the towers will transmit broadband into areas already served by Spectrum. Specifically, the proposed project states that it intends to support a fixed wireless expansion to serve many communities, including, Athol, Coeur d'Alene, Hayden Lake, Hauser, Bayview, parts of Rathdrum, and Stateline. Spectrum currently provides services to all of these areas and communities. See Affidavit of Danielle Wade. Granting this application would be in violation of the statutory funding requirement.

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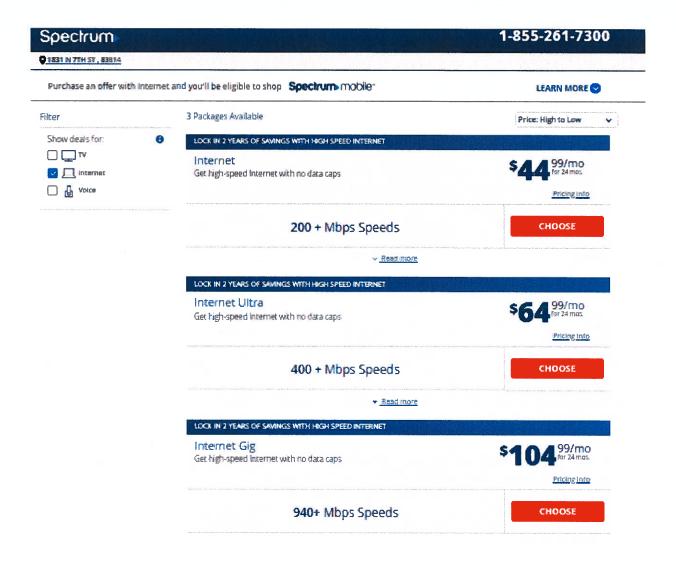
available in the proposed service area identified in the application and currently offers speeds up to 940/35 Mbps service – which far exceeds the minimum service threshold set forth in the program rules. Also attached are screenshots from Spectrum's publicly-available service tool which describes the broadband internet products available to homes and businesses in Athol, Coeur d'Alene, Hayden Lake, Hauser, Bayview, Rathdrum, and Stateline. Therefore, Spectrum's service area constitutes a served area and is not eligible for funding under the State of Idaho Broadband Grant Application Program.

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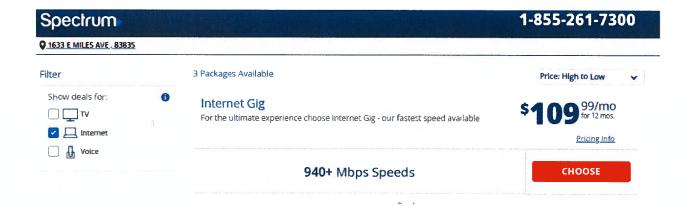
## **Athol**

Spectrum		1-855-261-7300	
© 30355 N 3RD 5T _85801			
Purchase an offer with Int	ternet and you'll be eligible to shop Spectrum mobile:	LEARN MORE 😊	
Filter	3 Packages Available	Price: High to Low	
Show deals for:	Internet Gig  For the ultimate experience choose Internet Gig - our fastest speed available	\$109 99/mo	
Internet  A Voice		Pricing Info	
	940+ Mbps Speeds	CHOOSE	
	✓ Read more		

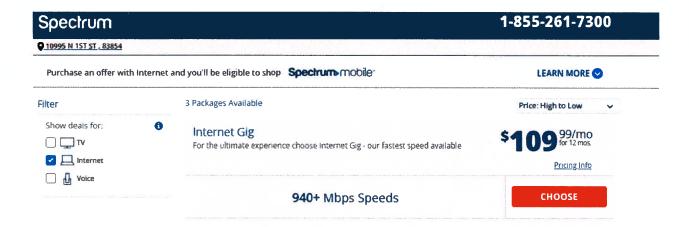
#### Coeur d'Alene



## **Hayden Lake**



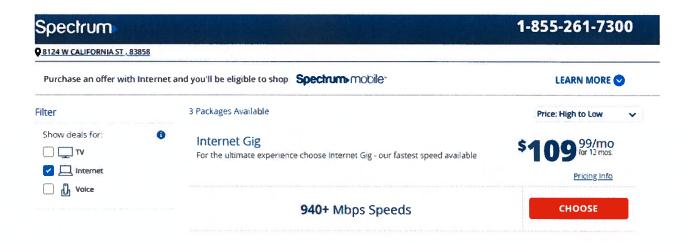
#### Hauser



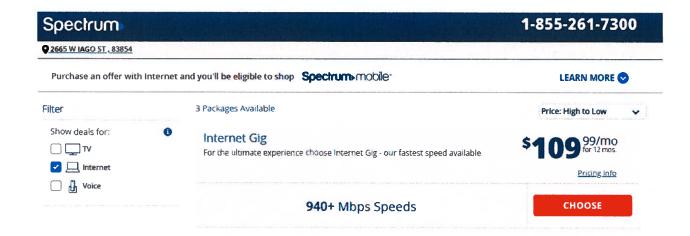
### **Bayview**



#### Rathdrum



# **Stateline**



# AFFIDAVIT APP- 004211 Kootenai County - Jody Bieze

STATE OF WASHINGTON COUNTY OF CLARK, to wit.

- I, Danielle Wade, being duly sworn, deposes and says as follows:
- 1. I am an Area Vice President, Field Operations for Charter Communications, Inc., a publicly-held Delaware corporation with a principal place of business at 400 Atlantic Street, Stamford, CT 0690l ("Charter"). I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth in this affidavit.
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Further this affiant sayeth not.

[SIGNATURE PAGE FOLLOWS]

.

Subscribed and sworn before me, a day of, 2020, by Dan Communications, Inc.) who affirmed that a are true and correct.	notary public of and for the jurisdiction aforesaid, this ielle Wade, as AVP, Field Operations for Charter all of his declarations contained in the above affidavit
Mulude	
Danielle Wade,	
AVP, Field Operations for Charter Commi	unications, Inc.
[SEAL]	Notary Public My commission expires: 2-12-23

CALV

#### APP-004190 Kootenai County - Jody Bieze

Spectrum Pacific West, LLC files this Challenge because the named applicant's proposed grant project includes an area that is already being served by at least one provider offering broadband service namely, Spectrum. Spectrum holds a statewide cable television franchise and has provided service to the area for many years. Kootenai County's application for a grant from the State of Idaho Broadband Grant Program must be rejected because significant portions of the proposed network buildout overbuilds services already in place by Spectrum. This application provides for improvements and services to areas using fixed wireless technology, which uses towers to transmit internet wirelessly across distances. The towers and areas proposed in this application, and the other applications Spectrum is challenging that were submitted by Kootenai County, are part of a network of towers that rely on each other and are each needed to provide services. Here, the applicant proposes to replace or modify towers in locations where Spectrum does not provide broadband services, however, the towers will transmit broadband into areas already served by Spectrum. Specifically, the proposed project states that it intends to support a fixed wireless expansion to serve many communities, including, Athol, Coeur d'Alene, Hayden Lake, Hauser, Bayview, parts of Rathdrum, and Stateline. Spectrum currently provides services to all of these areas and communities. See Affidavit of Danielle Wade. Granting this application would be in violation of the statutory funding requirement.

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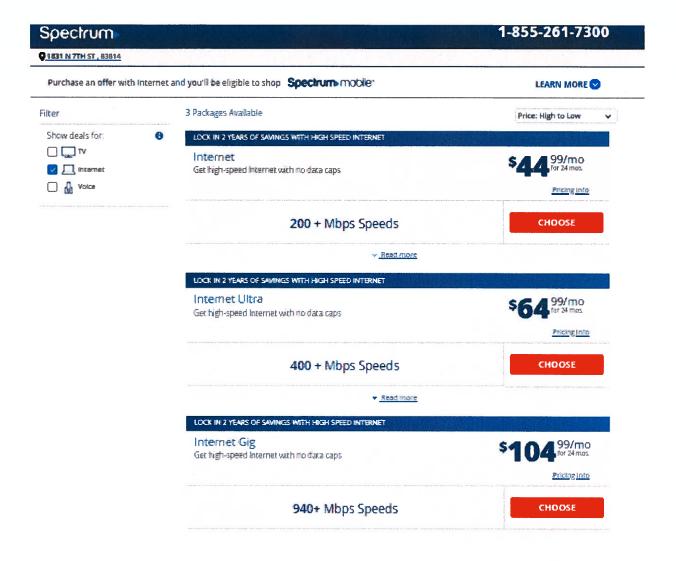
available in the proposed service area identified in the application and currently offers speeds up to 940/35 Mbps service – which far exceeds the minimum service threshold set forth in the program rules. Also attached are screenshots from Spectrum's publicly-available service tool which describes the broadband internet products available to homes and businesses in Athol, Coeur d'Alene, Hayden Lake, Hauser, Bayview, Rathdrum, and Stateline. Therefore, Spectrum's service area constitutes a served area and is not eligible for funding under the State of Idaho Broadband Grant Application Program.

Any award of funding that overlaps Charter's network would frustrate the goals of the grant program – to bring broadband service to truly unserved areas. Spectrum encourages the Department to adhere to the program rules and reject the Application because there is verifiable information that the proposed project includes an area that is already being served by at least one provider, namely Spectrum, offering broadband service.

### **Athol**



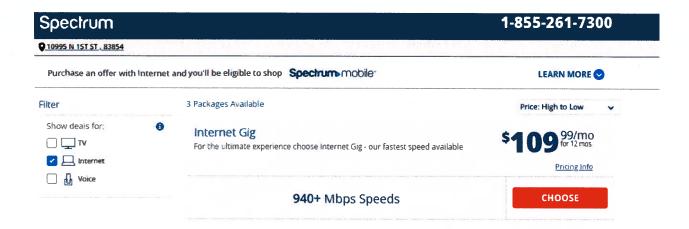
#### Coeur d'Alene



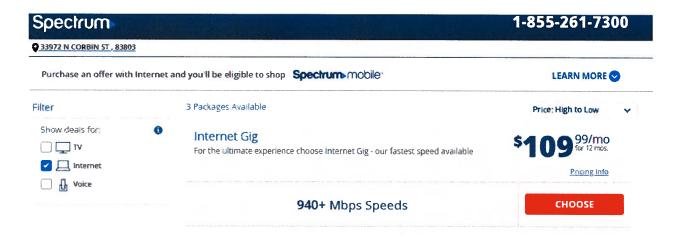
# **Hayden Lake**



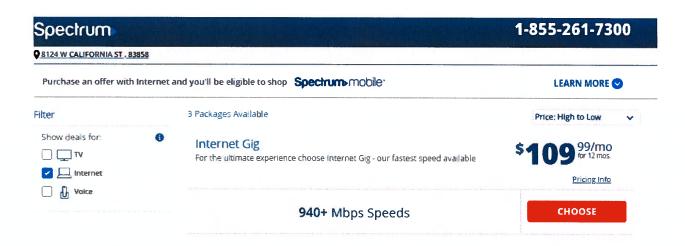
#### Hauser



#### **Bayview**



#### Rathdrum



# Stateline



# AFFIDAVIT APP- 004190 Kootenai County - Jody Bieze

STATE OF WASHINGTON COUNTY OF CLARK, to wit.

- I, Danielle Wade, being duly sworn, deposes and says as follows:
- 1. I am an Area Vice President, Field Operations for Charter Communications, Inc., a publicly-held Delaware corporation with a principal place of business at 400 Atlantic Street, Stamford, CT 0690l ("Charter"). I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth in this affidavit.
- 2. Charter is a provider of broadband internet services, among other products, and owns the cable system that provides broadband/high speed internet access (the "System") operated by Spectrum Pacific West, LLC in Kootenai County, Idaho. Specifically, Spectrum provides broadband services in Athol, Coeur d'Alene, Hayden Lake, Hauser, Bayview, parts of Rathdrum, and Stateline. Spectrum Pacific West, LLC is a Delaware limited liability company with a principal place of business in Missouri.
- 3. I am familiar with the System and hereby declare and confirm that, based on information and belief, the System is deployed in and architected, designed and constructed to deliver residential and business internet with a connection of up to 940 Mbps download/35 Mbps upload within the service territory that is the subject of Charter's Challenge to Kootenai County's Application for funding to overbuild Spectrum in the areas of Athol, Coeur d'Alene, Hayden Lake, Hauser, Bayview, parts of Rathdrum, and Stateline.

Further this affiant sayeth not.

[SIGNATURE PAGE FOLLOWS]

^
Subscribed and sworn before me, a notary public of and for the jurisdiction aforesaid, this day of, 2020, by Danielle Wade, as AVP, Field Operations for Charter Communications, Inc., who affirmed that all of his declarations contained in the above affidavit
are true and dorrect.
There
Danielle Wade,
AVP, Field Operations for Charter Communications, Inc.

[SEAL]

Motary Public
My commission expires: 212-23

#### APP- 004206 Kootenai County - Jody Bieze

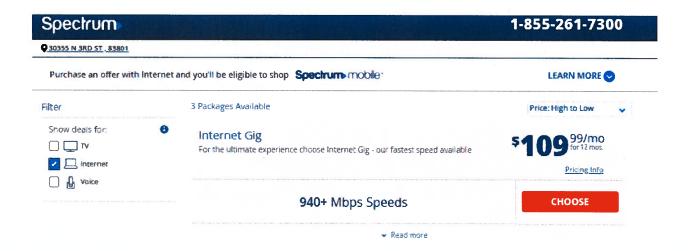
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The grant funding rules found in "State of Idaho Broadband Grant Application: households" provides that applications must "be a project that serves underbuilt areas and does not overbuild existing broadband service." Section (2)(A)(iii) (emphasis added.) This overbuild restriction is reiterated later in the rules under the section titled "application." This rule sets forth a two-step test to determine eligibility. First, be a project that serves underbuilt areas, which is defined as less than fifty percent of households in the project area. Second, must not overbuild existing broadband service. As demonstrated in Danielle Wade's affidavit, Spectrum's high speed broadband network is already

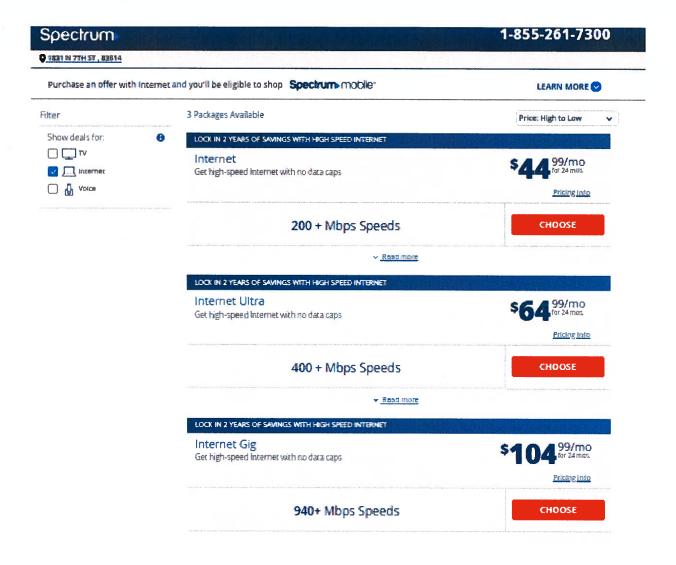
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Any award of funding that overlaps Charter's network would frustrate the goals of the grant program – to bring broadband service to truly unserved areas. Spectrum encourages the Department to adhere to the program rules and reject the Application because there is verifiable information that the proposed project includes an area that is already being served by at least one provider, namely Spectrum, offering broadband service.

#### **Athol**



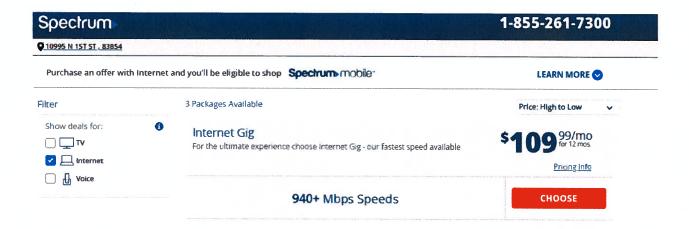
#### Coeur d'Alene



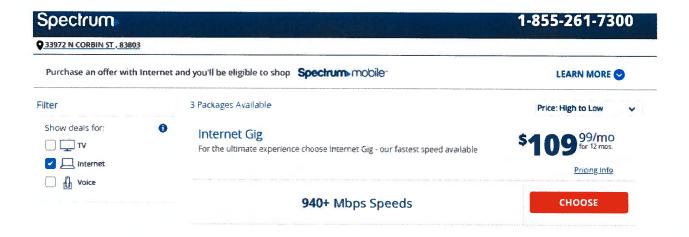
# **Hayden Lake**



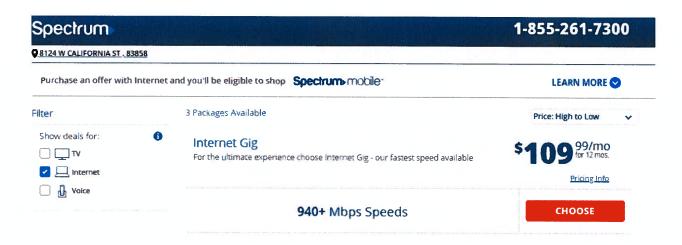
#### Hauser



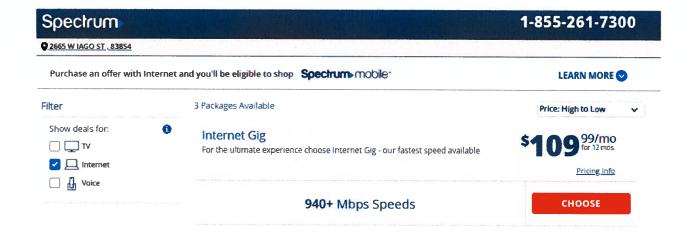
#### **Bayview**



#### Rathdrum



# Stateline



# AFFIDAVIT APP- 004206 Kootenai County - Jody Bieze

STATE OF WASHINGTON COUNTY OF CLARK, to wit.

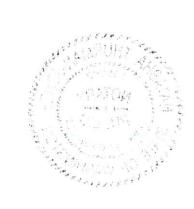
I, Danielle Wade, being duly sworn, deposes and says as follows:

- 1. I am an Area Vice President, Field Operations for Charter Communications, Inc., a publicly-held Delaware corporation with a principal place of business at 400 Atlantic Street, Stamford, CT 0690l ("Charter"). I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth in this affidavit.
- 2. Charter is a provider of broadband internet services, among other products, and owns the cable system that provides broadband/high speed internet access (the "System") operated by Spectrum Pacific West, LLC in Kootenai County, Idaho. Specifically, Spectrum provides broadband services in Athol, Coeur d'Alene, Hayden Lake, Hauser, Bayview, parts of Rathdrum, and Stateline. Spectrum Pacific West, LLC is a Delaware limited liability company with a principal place of business in Missouri.
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Further this affiant sayeth not.

[SIGNATURE PAGE FOLLOWS]

Subscribed and sworn before n day of, 2020, by communications, Inc., who affirmed the are true and correct.	ne, a notary public of and for the jurisdiction aforesaid, this Danielle Wade, as AVP, Field Operations for Charter hat all of his declarations contained in the above affidavit
Danielle Wade,	_
AVP, Field Operations for Charter Co.	mmunications, Inc.
[SEAL]	Notary Public My commission expires: 2 12 23
EN LOTAD. YEL	why commission expires: $272^{\circ}25$



#### APP- 004208 Kootenai County - Jody Bieze

Spectrum Pacific West, LLC files this Challenge because the named applicant's proposed grant project includes an area that is already being served by at least one provider offering broadband service - namely, Spectrum. Spectrum holds a statewide cable television franchise and has provided service to the area for many years. Kootenai County's application for a grant from the State of Idaho Broadband Grant Program must be rejected because significant portions of the proposed network buildout overbuilds services already in place by Spectrum. This application provides for improvements and services to areas using fixed wireless technology, which uses towers to transmit internet wirelessly across distances. The towers and areas proposed in this application, and the other applications Spectrum is challenging that were submitted by Kootenai County, are part of a network of towers that rely on each other and are each needed to provide services. Here, the applicant proposes to replace or modify towers in locations where Spectrum does not provide broadband services, however, the towers will transmit broadband into areas already served by Spectrum. Specifically, the proposed project states that it intends to support a fixed wireless expansion to serve many communities, including, Athol, Coeur d'Alene, Hayden Lake, Hauser, Bayview, parts of Rathdrum, and Stateline. Spectrum currently provides services to all of these areas and communities. See Affidavit of Danielle Wade. Granting this application would be in violation of the statutory funding requirement.

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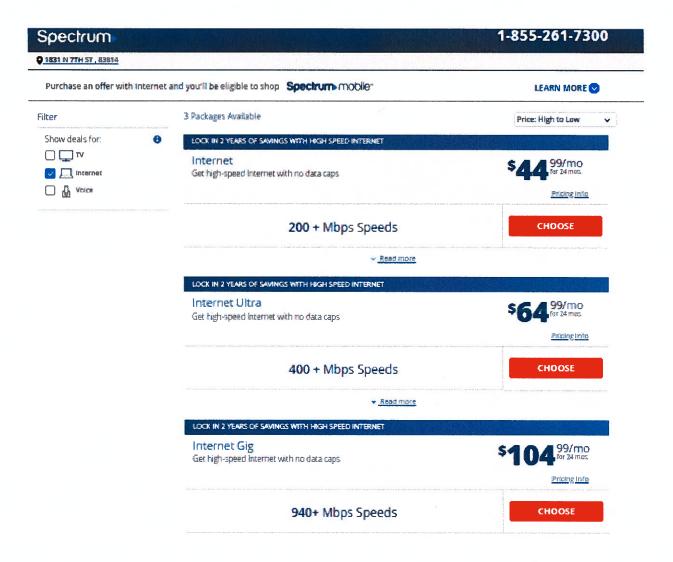
available in the proposed service area identified in the application and currently offers speeds up to 940/35 Mbps service – which far exceeds the minimum service threshold set forth in the program rules. Also attached are screenshots from Spectrum's publicly-available service tool which describes the broadband internet products available to homes and businesses in Athol, Coeur d'Alene, Hayden Lake, Hauser, Bayview, Rathdrum, and Stateline. Therefore, Spectrum's service area constitutes a served area and is not eligible for funding under the State of Idaho Broadband Grant Application Program.

Any award of funding that overlaps Charter's network would frustrate the goals of the grant program – to bring broadband service to truly unserved areas. Spectrum encourages the Department to adhere to the program rules and reject the Application because there is verifiable information that the proposed project includes an area that is already being served by at least one provider, namely Spectrum, offering broadband service.

#### **Athol**

Spectrum		1-855-261-7300		
♥30355 N 3RD ST . 83801				
Purchase an offer with In	nternet and you'll be eligible to shop Spectrum mobile:	LEARN MORE		
Filter	3 Packages Available	Price: High to Low		
Show deals for:  Tv  Internet	Internet Gig  For the ultimate experience choose Internet Gig - our fastest speed available	\$109 99/mo for 12 mos. Pricing Info		
☐ ∰ Voice	940+ Mbps Speeds	CHOOSE		
	✓ Read more			

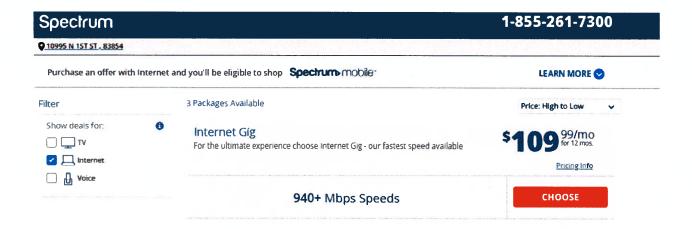
#### Coeur d'Alene



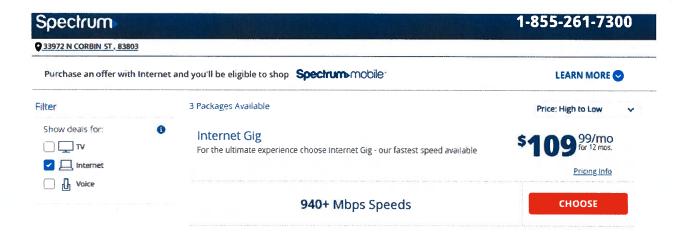
#### **Hayden Lake**



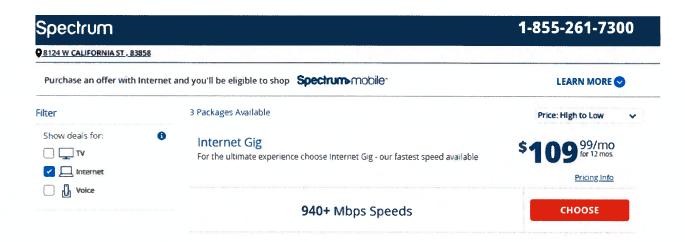
#### Hauser



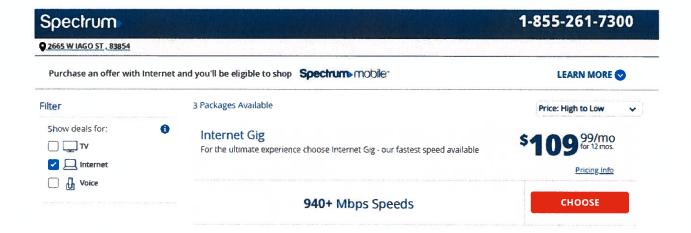
#### **Bayview**



#### Rathdrum



#### **Stateline**



## AFFIDAVIT APP- 004208 Kootenai County - Jody Bieze

STATE OF WASHINGTON COUNTY OF CLARK, to wit.

- I, Danielle Wade, being duly sworn, deposes and says as follows:
- 1. I am an Area Vice President, Field Operations for Charter Communications, Inc., a publicly-held Delaware corporation with a principal place of business at 400 Atlantic Street, Stamford, CT 0690l ("Charter"). I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth in this affidavit.
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Further this affiant sayeth not.

[SIGNATURE PAGE FOLLOWS]

$\wedge$
Subscribed and sworn before me, a notary public of and for the jurisdiction aforesaid, this day of, 2020, by Danielle Wade, as AVP, Field Operations for Charter Communications, Inc., who affirmed that all of his declarations contained in the above affidavit
Communications, Inc., who affirmed that all of his declarations contained in the above affidavit
are true and correct.
Danielle Wade, AVP, Field Operations for Charter Communications, Inc.

[SEAL]



Notary Public
My commission expires: 2-12-23



#### 64 Automation Ln Bonners Ferry ID 83805 Office (208) 946-4147

July 24, 2020

State of Idaho Depart of Commerce

Re: Challenge to applications Boundary County Unincorporated Area Application ID APP-004230

Applicant did not include the required information per the application process. Requirement states "Applicants submitting more than one project must prioritize their projects for the community in a cover letter submitted with each application." Which was not submitted with the below listed applications:

Additionally two documents missing as notes in Application starting at page#: 3285

Application starting at page#: 2968

Application Title: This project covers Eastport, Round Prairie, North Moyie River

Application starting at page#: 3011

Application Title: This project is the Curley Creek and East Moyie to Montana Border

Application starting at page#: 3060

Application Title: Deep Creek and Pleasant Valley area of Boundary County, Idaho.

Application starting at page#: 3285

Application Title: This project is the Copeland, Camp 9 and Porthill area of Boundary County, Idaho

Part 2: Application is missing viewable copy of Question #27 – Grant Budget Final and Question #30- Broadband plan although they are shown as an uploaded document in the application. (see attached documents)

Application starting at page#: 3326

Application Title: This area is Naples and Highland Flats of Boundary County

# Idaho CARES Act Broadband Grant Budget

Line Item	<b>Grant Dollars</b>
Fiber	\$11,080.00
E.L. Internet Northwest Company Services	\$19,735.00
Engineering and Outside Services	\$2,070.00
Parts & Materials	\$51,984.00
Equipment Charges	\$2,000.00
Applications & Permits	\$150.00
TOTAL	\$87,019.00



#### **E.L. INTERNET NORTHWEST BROADBAND PLAN**

E.L. Internet Northwest is invested in our community. We founded our company in 2010 because there was a great need for faster, more reliable internet in Boundary County. Over the years we have accomplished immense upgrades in internet availability in Boundary County and surrounding areas with fixed wireless, cable, and fiber optic technologies. We have an ongoing and forward thinking plan to continue the advancement of broadband internet to our community county wide. The following is a summary of our completed and in progress infrastructure phases.

#### Fixed Wireless Tower Installation & Launch

Dates: 2010-2019

Design, engineer, and build 18 complete communication tower sites in Boundary County ID, Bonner County ID, and Lincoln County MT. Perform ground work to prepare sites, form & pour concrete foundations, build & erect towers ranging from 40' to 160', install and wire communication buildings and equipment, design and install solar and wind alternative energy systems to power the sites along with battery banks and backup generators, program & install communication equipment on towers, engineer and deploy communication network between all sites. These strategically placed tower sites provide internet service coverage over 90% of Boundary County.

Status: Complete



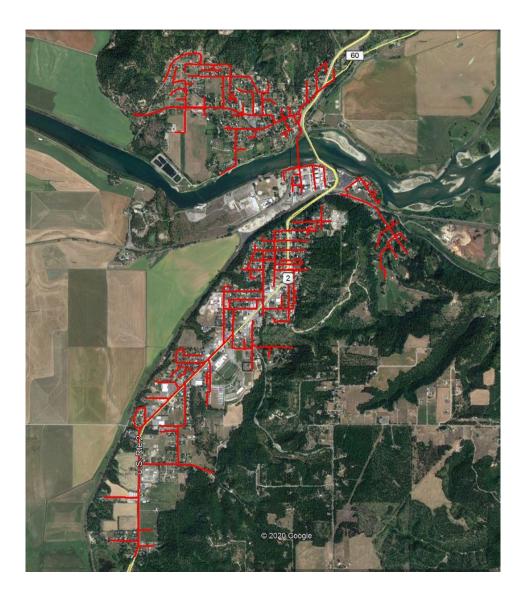


#### **Upgrade Bonners Ferry Cable System**

Date: 2015-2016

Acquisition of Bonners Ferry cable system infrastructure covering over 97% of Bonners Ferry ID. Immediately upgrade the capacity and performance of the network feeds and equipment to provide improved service to customers. Upgrade CMTS from Docsis 2.0 to Docsis 3.0. Upgrade internet feed for cable system from a limited microwave link to a dedicated fiber optic backbone with gigabit capabilities.

Status: Complete



#### Fiber to the Home & Business - Phase 1: Downtown Bonners Ferry

Date: 2018

Design, engineer, install, and launch fiber to the home and over 90% of business in downtown Bonners Ferry to provide direct fiber connections of up to 1Gbps. Install strand and fiber on power poles as well as underground vaults and pedestals. Install fiber taps both aerial and underground to make affordable installations to the customer.

Status: Complete



#### **Addition of Cable Nodes**

Dates: 2018-2019

Improve cable network performance by increasing number of nodes on the system from 2 nodes to 5 nodes and install fiber to all nodes increasing speed capabilities to entire cable network. Lower all cable plan prices making these faster speeds even more affordable.

Status: Complete

#### **Upgrade Wireless Capability**

Dates: 2018-2019

Upgrade backhauls and access points on wireless towers to new technology capable of providing 4 times faster speeds to customers. Lower customer pricing and increase speeds on all wireless plans.

Status: Complete

Fiber to the Home & Business - Phase 2: "3 Mile" Bonners Ferry

Date: 2019

Design, engineer, install, and launch fiber to the home and business in the 3 Mile area including Highway coverage for large businesses. Install strand and fiber on power poles as well as underground vaults and pedestals. Install fiber taps both aerial and underground to make affordable installations to the customer. Homes and businesses in these areas are now able to purchase direct fiber connections of up to 1Gbps.

Status: Complete

Fiber Optic Feed to Wireless Towers in Northern Boundary County

Date: 2019

Design, engineer, and install fiber optics from Bonners Ferry north to E.L. Internet Northwest's north bench hub that supplies bandwidth to our 5 towers in the northern part of Boundary County. Fiber fed hub provides 10 times increased capability to this portion of our wireless network.

Status: Complete

**Network Redundancy** 

Date: 2019-2020

Implement backup fiber optic backbone feeds as well as backup hub equipment with fail safes to create redundancy to our wireless, fiber, and cable networks. Program hub routers for automatic switchover so in the event a fiber backbone is damaged, our network will continue running on a separate fiber backbone from a 2<sup>nd</sup> provider's feed. Set up automatic switch over to backup mirrored routers in the event the hub equipment fails.

Status: On Budget, On Schedule, 90% Complete

Fiber to the Home & Business - Phase 3: Sections 1 & 2 of Bonners Ferry

Date: 2019-2020

Design, engineer, install, and launch fiber to the home to approx. 40% of the Bonners Ferry homes. Install strand and fiber on power poles as well as underground vaults and pedestals. Install fiber taps both aerial and underground to make affordable installations to the customer. Homes and businesses in these areas are now able to purchase direct fiber to the home connections of up to 1Gbps.

Status: On Budget, Ahead of Schedule, 80% Complete

4

Fiber to the Home & Business - Phase 4: Fiber from "3 Mile" to Moyie Springs

Date: 2020-Future (2020 if Grant is Awarded)

Design, engineer, and install fiber optic backbone from 3 Mile area of Bonners Ferry to Moyie Springs. Project includes installing vaults, strand, fiber on poles and underground to bring the opportunity of fiber optic internet to the area.

Status: In Engineering State

Fiber to the Home & Business - Phase 5: Moyie Springs

Date: Future (2020 if Grant is Awarded)

Design, engineer, install, and launch fiber to the home to the Moyie Springs municipal area. Install vaults, pedestals, strand, fiber on power poles and underground, along with fiber taps. This will give over 80% of the City's residents the option of 'fiber to home' broadband connections, with a very affordable installation cost. Homes and businesses in these areas will be able to enjoy direct fiber connections of up to 1Gbps.

Status: Draft Design - Future Build

**Wireless Equipment Upgrades** 

Date: Future

Upgrade equipment on communication towers to improve internet speeds to rural areas in Boundary County. Increase speeds on internet plans to bring standard packages to broadband speeds.

Status: Future

#### **Boundary County Commissioners**

Dan R. Dinning, Chairman Wally Cossairt, Commissioner Walt Kirby, Commissioner



Telephone (208) 267-7723 Fax: (208) 267-7814 commissioners@boundarycountyid.org

### P. O. Box 419 Bonners Ferry, ID 83805

July 15, 2020

Idaho Department of Commerce Attn: Tom Kealey, Director 700 West State Street P.O. Box 83720 Boise, ID 83720-0093

RE: Ranking of projects for State of Idaho CARES Act Broadband Grant

#### Dear Director Kealey:

Below please find the Boundary County Commissioners' ranking of projects associated with the State of Idaho CARES Act Broadband Grant as approved by the Board of Boundary County Commissioners during their special session on Friday, July 10, 2020.

#### **CARES Act Broadband Grant - Households**

ĦΙ.	intermax Networks for the Curley Creek area
<b>#2.</b>	EL Internet Northwest for the Curley Creek are
<b>#3</b> .	EL Internet Northwest for the Copeland area
<del>4</del> 4.	EL Internet Northwest for the Deep Creek area
<b>#5</b> .	Intermax Networks for the Naples area
<del>‡</del> 6.	EL Internet Northwest for the Naples area
<del>7</del> 7.	EL Internet Northwest for the Eastport area
<del>1</del> 8.	Intermax Networks for the Copper Ridge area
<del>1</del> 9.	Intermax Networks for the O'Callaghan's area
<i>‡</i> 10.	Intermax Networks for the Camp 9 Road area
<b>‡11</b> .	Intermax Networks for the Porthill area
<i>‡</i> 12.	Intermax Networks for the Meadow Creek area

#### CARES Act Broadband Grant – Government Entity

#1. Fat Beam for Moyie Springs City Hall

#### Respectfully

BOUNDARY COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Dan R. Dinning

**Commission Chairman** 



### **64 Automation Lane Bonners Ferry ID 83805** (208) 946-4147 elinternetnw.com

July 24th, 2020

State of Idaho
Department of Commerce

Re: Challenge to application

Boundary County Unincorporated Area

Applicant ID APP-004230

Page 3103 through 3284, of 6450

Application Title "Camp 9 Road"

This challenge is presented regarding application for an unincorporated area in Boundary County for project entitled "Camp 9 Road", presented by the applicant Boundary County with ISP, Intermax as contractor. The information provided in conjunction with the challenge is pertinent for the Idaho Department of Commerce's determination of award and should be evaluated thoroughly prior to making their decision of award.

We believe that the errors made by the applicant were inadvertently due to time constraints and lack of technical knowledge in wireless and fiber technology. Having said this, these errors are substantial and require review and response by the applicant. Without this information, the Idaho Department of Commerce may inadvertently award grant funds where they should not be awarded; this in our humble, but technically qualified, opinion. The information provided indicates the applicant was in error when considering provider Intermax as a contractor for unincorporated areas within their jurisdictional control.

Challenges and supporting document references as follows:

1. Applicant prioritized two providers for certain project areas. Two ISP's were weighted based on same or similar project names; however, projects are only similar in name, not service area. Service areas between providers are not comparable, infrastructure efforts are completely different. In this project, Camp 9 Road is showing 344 "addresses" by the applicant. For comparison, the applicant's application for E.L. Internet Northwest is named "Copeland, Camp 9 and Porthill area of Boundary County Idaho", which includes Copeland, Camp 9, and Porthill areas with a total of 760 "end users". What was the methodology utilized by the applicant to compare projects for prioritization?



**64 Automation Lane Bonners Ferry ID 83805** (208) 946-4147 elinternetnw.com

- 2. Although with good intent, the applicant based their decision of prioritization of projects on an ineffective method of project area evaluation. We challenge the information provided in the application in the following areas.
  - a. Applicant failed to demonstrate capability to provide service to "end users", instead solely gave an "address count" within a given project area, this is an arbitrary number when used for this purpose. With many geographic limitations in Boundary County for fixed wireless, it is not feasible to provide service to every address as the applicant suggests by their service map. How did the applicant determine cost per residence without further information than simply total "addresses" within the project area? And how many "addresses" can the applicant reasonably expect to provide to the "end users" within the claimed project area? At a minimum, there should be an attempt to determine which "addresses" are feasible and which are not. There was no indication with the presentation by Intermax to the applicant, nor is any data provided in the actual application that any attempt was made to determine this crucial information.

**Factual information related to challenge presented in (2)(a):** From a technical perspective, to attain even moderate accuracy of cost per household, requires a study at a more granular level than simply "addresses" per project area. This fact is highlighted in the applicants submitted supporting information. Although highlighted in several areas throughout the submitted information, key data is embodied in the Idaho Broadband Task Force draft report, specifically in the "Mapping Committee Report."

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### **64 Automation Lane Bonners Ferry ID 83805** (208) 946-4147 elinternetnw.com

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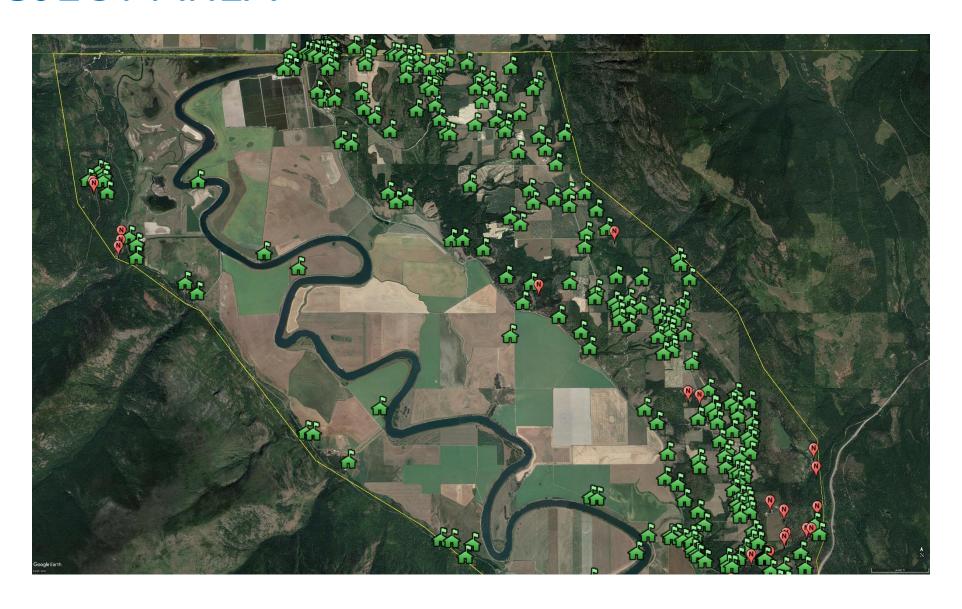
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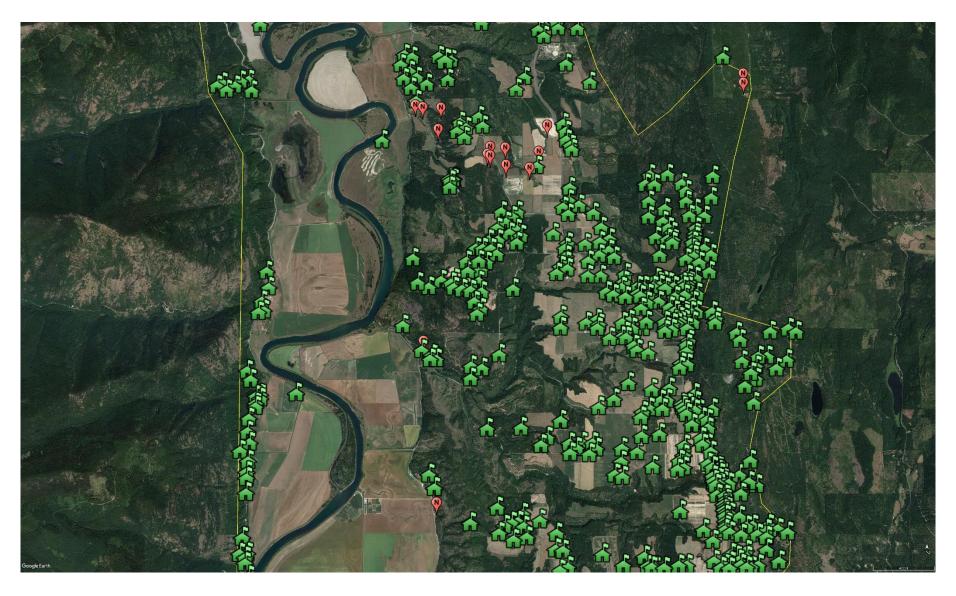
Eric Lederhos

Erin Lo Senton









#### **Magaly Carrillo**

From: Stephanie Lederhos <steph@elinternetnw.com>

**Sent:** Friday, July 24, 2020 4:59 PM

To: COM Broadband

**Subject:** Challenges to Broadband Grant Application for Boundary County

Attachments: Challenge to Intermax Proposal - Copper Ridge.pdf; Geospatial Analysis Eastport, Round Prairie,

North Moyie River E.L. Internet Northwest.pdf; Intermax Networks News Article original BC.pdf;

Intermax Networks News Article.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

Attached documents are challenges to broadband grant applications for Boundary County.

Thank you,

#### **Stephanie Franke**



Office Manager E.L. Internet Northwest 208-946-4147



### **64 Automation Lane Bonners Ferry ID 83805** (208) 946-4147 elinternetnw.com

July 24th, 2020

State of Idaho
Department of Commerce

Re: Challenge to application

Boundary County Unincorporated Area

Applicant ID APP-004230

Page 3903 through 4081, of 6450

Application Title "Copper Ridge"

This challenge is presented regarding application for an unincorporated area in Boundary County for project entitled "Copper Ridge", presented by the applicant Boundary County with ISP, Intermax as contractor. The information provided in conjunction with the challenge is pertinent for the Idaho Department of Commerce's determination of award and should be evaluated thoroughly prior to making their decision of award.

We believe that the errors made by the applicant were inadvertently due to time constraints and lack of technical knowledge in wireless and fiber technology. Having said this, these errors are substantial and require review and response by the applicant. Without this information, the Idaho Department of Commerce may inadvertently award grant funds where they should not be awarded; this in our humble, but technically qualified, opinion. The information provided indicates the applicant was in error when considering provider Intermax as a contractor for unincorporated areas within their jurisdictional control.

Challenges and supporting document references as follows:

1. Applicant prioritized two providers for certain project areas. Two ISP's were weighted based on same or similar project names; however, projects are only similar in name, not service area. Service areas between providers are not comparable, infrastructure efforts are completely different. In this project, Copper Ridge is showing 108 "addresses" by the applicant. For comparison, the applicant's application for E.L. Internet Northwest is named "Eastport, Round Prairie, North Moyie River", which includes Eastport, Round Prairie, and North Moyie River areas with a total of 243 "end users". What was the methodology utilized by the applicant to compare projects for prioritization?



### **64 Automation Lane Bonners Ferry ID 83805** (208) 946-4147 elinternetnw.com

2. Although with good intent, the applicant based their decision of prioritization of projects on an ineffective method of project area evaluation. We challenge the information provided in the application in the following areas.

a. Applicant failed to demonstrate capability to provide service to "end users", instead solely gave an "address count" within a given project area, this is an arbitrary number when used for this purpose. With many geographic limitations in Boundary County for fixed wireless, it is not feasible to provide service to every address as the applicant suggests by their service map. How did the applicant determine cost per residence without further information than simply total "addresses" within the project area? And how many "addresses" can the applicant reasonably expect to provide to the "end users" within the claimed project area? At a minimum, there should be an attempt to determine which "addresses" are feasible and which are not. There was no indication with the presentation by Intermax to the applicant, nor is any data provided in the actual application that any attempt was made to determine this crucial information.

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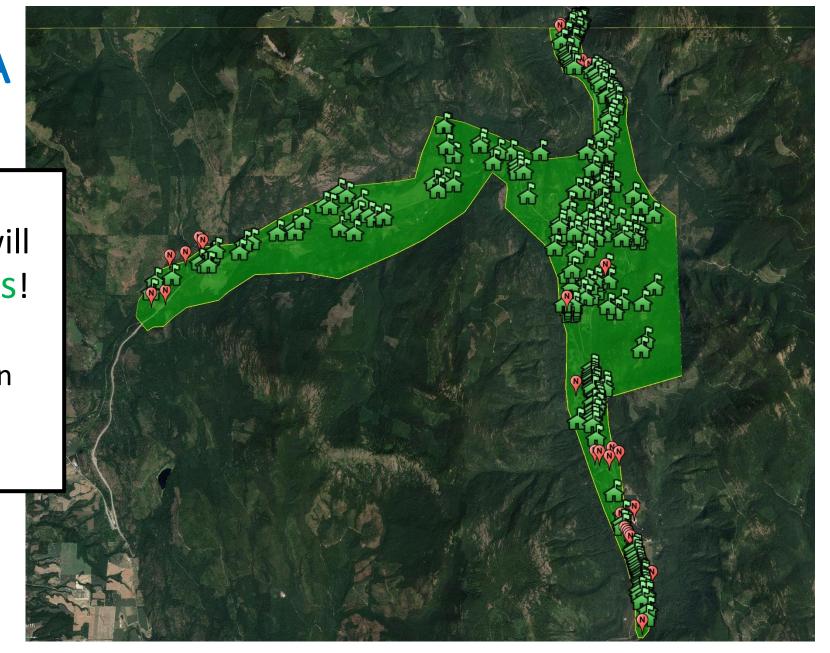
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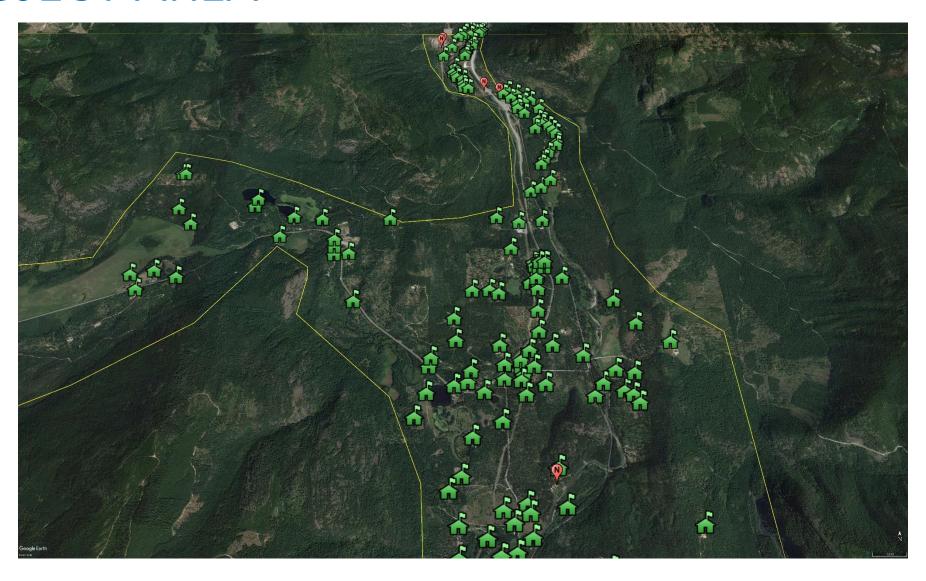
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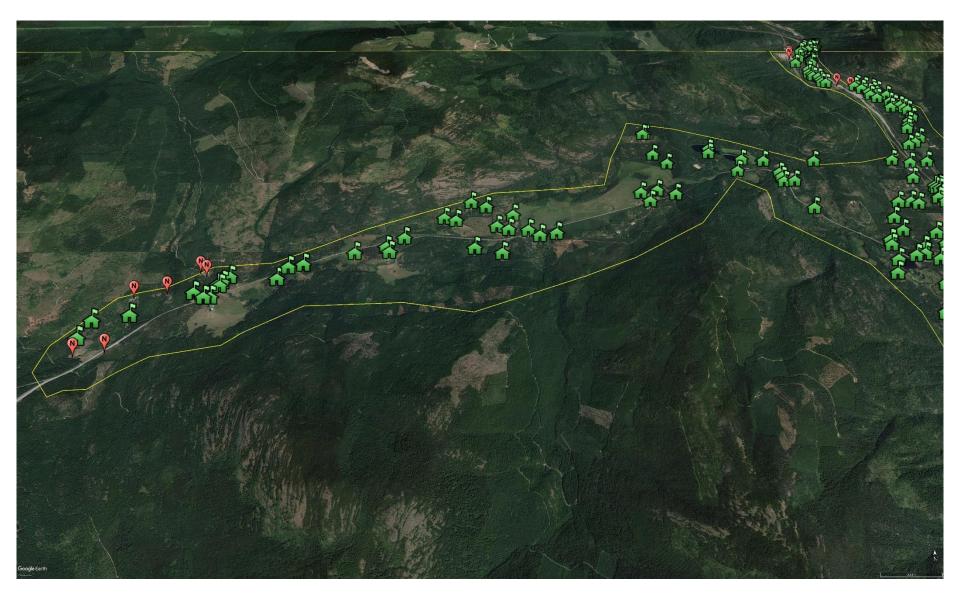
Erin Lo Senton

Proposed project will service 243 homes!

Over 90% of homes in this area!











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# Coeur d'Alene company receives federal contract to expand and improve internet access and service in Boundary County along with other areas of Idaho Panhandle

September 12, 2018

A Coeur d'Alene internet service provider, whose market includes Boundary County, has received a large federal award to finance major upgrades in internet speed and access to areas of Boundary County and other parts of the Idaho panhandle that have limited or no internet service.

Mike Kennedy, President of Coeur d'Alene-based Intermax Networks, announced that Intermax was awarded a contract for \$11.5 million from the Federal Communications Commission to expand



broadband internet service in rural areas of Boundary, Bonner, Kootenai, and Benewah counties of Idaho, and Spokane County in Washington.

Mr. Kennedy explained that funding for the contract comes from the Universal Service Fund, a small fee that all cellphone

users pay with their monthly bills. The money for the contract is spread over ten years. "This contract will allow our company, with about 3,000 customers, to invest more rapidly in expensive infrastructure, which in turn will ramp up speeds for many rural users from snail's pace to roadrunner," said Mr. Kennedy. He projected that Intermax could potentially quadruple its customer base over the span of the program.

He stressed his belief that some of the biggest impact of better and faster internet service in the rural areas targeted for upgrade will be in economic development and in educational improvement. He went on to give some examples of some of the benefits he foresees with faster internet in North Idaho's rural areas. "Schools in the areas will have access to educational content that now is out of reach. Kids who can't visit the new Idaho State Historical Museum in Boise, for instance, will at least be able to take video tours of the fabulous facility. Lectures from renowned educators can be live-streamed into classrooms."

"What has us really excited are the doors that will open for rural entrepreneurs and businesses whose potential is now throttled by limited or non-existent internet access. The ability to conduct e-commerce will expand dramatically. As our economy shifts away from bricks and mortar workplaces toward digital domains, an increasing number of jobs will depend upon high-speed internet capability — and Intermax will do its part to provide that. Best of all, some exceedingly talented people won't have to abandon their rural roots to make a good living," Mr. Kennedy said.

He went on to clarify that it will take a few years for most people living in the affected rural areas to begin to receive the benefits of this program because of the buildout that will be required. As far as exactly how many years, he says it will depend on each location. The funding for the program won't be available until mid-2019. This is a 10-year award, with the funding allocated equally across the 10 years. However, Mr. Kennedy says they don't plan to allocate the buildout equally across 10 years. "We're going to front load as much as we can in the first year and following years. We believe it will take us five years to build out all the necessary infrastructure. Our goal is to have it done within five years."

What is his estimate for the buildout to be completed in the Bonners Ferry area? "I'm comfortable to say that in that area, maybe 18 months to two years. That would include improvement in the current system and taking internet access into new areas."

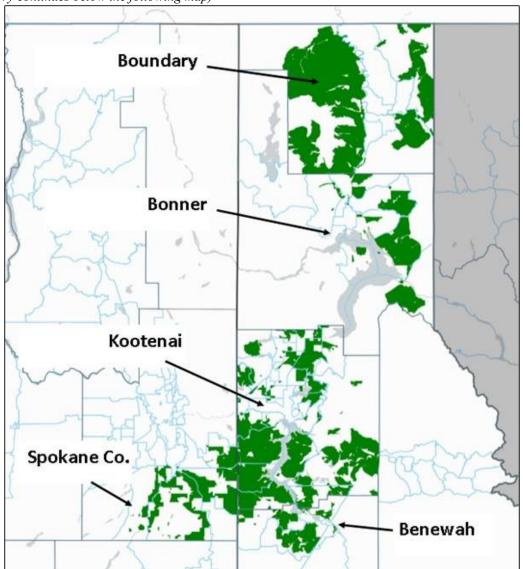
In Boundary County, Intermax service is currently a wireless system. All of the funding Intermax will

receive from this award is designated for providing wireless microwave internet access, at a speed of 25 Mbps download and upload speed of 3 Mbps. Mr. Kennedy stressed that even though internet access supplied will be via microwave wireless, "Our backbone from Seattle to Sandpoint is all fiber. That last mile or so to the houses is microwave LTE."

He predicts that the price to individuals and families in Boundary County won't change much when this new internet system is built and put into use. "Currently our average monthly bill to supply internet access to a home is \$59. Our goal is to keep it at that amount, yet still provide more bandwidth."

Intermax has provided a map of the Idaho panhandle with areas marked in green. A copy of that map is included with this article. "The green areas on the map are the areas for which we have received funding support," he said. Those are the specific areas that are targeted for these improvements of greater speed and better access. But he goes on to say that even areas on the map not marked in green will benefit from these improvements. "I think they will improve also as we improve the backbone of our system and the capacity of the system throughout," he said.

(Story continues below the following map)



On this map of the Idaho Panhandle and eastern Washington, the areas marked in green are the areas targeted for improvement in internet access and speed with the FCC contract recently awarded to Intermax Networks of Coeeur d'Alene. The company plans to begin in 2019 the buildout necessary to achieve the goal of internet systems improvements in these areas.

(Map provided by Intermax Networks)

Asked if his company had worked with any local Boundary County agencies or government entities in

putting together the proposal for this funding from the Federal Communications Commission, he replied that they had no formal association with any local agency. "We were under a very strict non-communication agreement stipulated by the FCC," he said.

There are many areas in Boundary County that have exceptionally slow internet speed, or no internet access at all. The aim of this FCC contract with Intermax is to improve that landscape dramatically, and Mr. Kennedy is hoping we see those improvements in Boundary County and throughout the Panhandle within the next five years.

Questions or comments about this article? Click here to e-mail!

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## **COEUR D'ALENE** RECEIVES FEDERAL **CONTRACT**

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1 minute ago

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X

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By Mike Kennedy | September 14, 2018 | Categories: In the News

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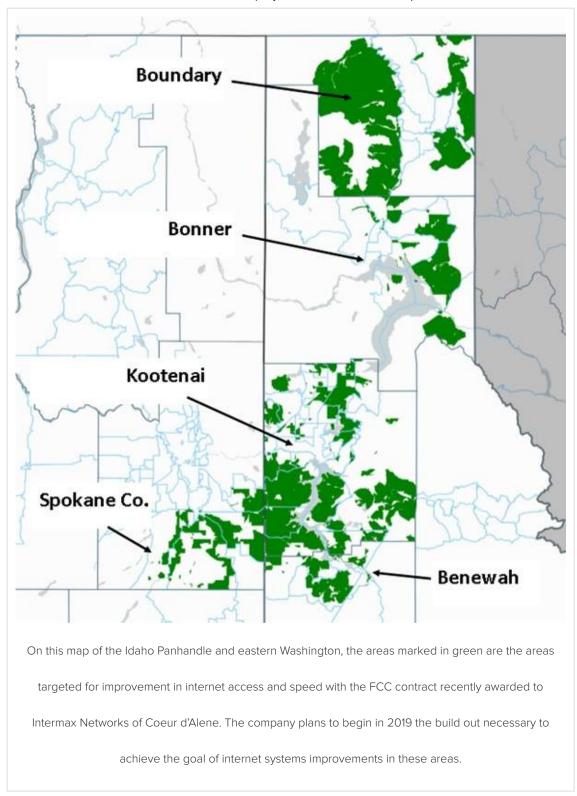
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Click here to view the original article as it appeared on the Bonners Ferry news site.



### **Intermax Networks Acquires Spokane-based Tel-**

#### West

By Marcee Hartzell | June 1, 2020

No Comments



# 5.9 GHz Band Boosts Consumer Internet Access During Covid-19 Pandemic

By Marcee Hartzell | May 11, 2020

No Comments

### Frontier Communications Attempts to Derail Rural Broadband Expansion in Idaho

By Marcee Hartzell | April 24, 2020



No Comments



# High-speed fiber 'net coming to Schweitzer Mountain Resort

By Marcee Hartzell | August 5, 2019

No Comments



# INTERMAX FIBER INTERNET CONSTRUCTION TO SMR STARTS

By Marcee Hartzell | August 1, 2019

No Comments



# Brookshire to be First Fiber to the Home Project in Kootenai County

By Marcee Hartzell | July 11, 2019

No Comments

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### **Magaly Carrillo**

From: eric@whitecloudcom.com
Sent: Friday, July 24, 2020 4:55 PM

To: COM Broadband

**Cc:** eric@whitecloudcom.com

Subject: [WARNING: UNSCANNABLE EXTRACTION FAILED]Hazelton Application Protest

Attachments: Hazelton Protest.pdf; Hazelton Broadbandnow.com Data.pdf; Hazelton Safelink Coverage Map.pdf;

Safelink 477 Blocks- Eden&Hazelton Area.kmz; Tekfinity letter to ID Dept of Commerce stating they

have a broadband plan.pdf; Hazelton Century Link Fiber Map.pdf

To whom it concerns at the Idaho Dept of Commerce. Please see attached letter of protest and supporting documentation.

Thanks and have a good weekend,

White Cloud Communications



July 24, 2020

663 Main Ave E. Twin Falls ID 83301

We are writing the Idaho Dept of Commerce to challenge the application by the City of Hazelton, applicant ID APP-004131.

We are challenging the use of this grant to provide a service that is already available. This grant does not meet the application requirements. This application does not meet the criteria of 50% of households are currently in an unserved area and 50% of households is in an underserved area.

Safelink covers Hazelton with 100% coverage at 25/5. Tekfinity covers Hazelton with 92% coverage. Tekfinity has stated in a letter this week to the Idaho Dept of Commerce that they offer a 25/3 plan. Please see attached supporting documentation from Broadbandnow.com and from the Safelink website. Another dataset to look at is FCC Form 477 data. We are attaching a Google Earth overlay which was prepared by JSI Consulting showing the census blocks which Safelink has filed with the FCC that they provide 25/5 coverage. You will see the entirety of Eden is covered.

Furthermore, Tekfinity is proposing to build a fiber line to Hazelton. Century Link already has a fiber line that touches the city limits of Hazelton. The Century Link fiber line comes in from the west on Hwy 25 and turns south at the city limits on S 1900 East. According to Kyle Clark, Senior Account Executive at Century Link they can provide multiple 1 gigabyte symmetrical connections to the city of Hazelton. Please see attached map provided by Century Link.

As a requirement of the application, there is supposed to be a budget submitted for the project. There is no budget for this proposed project submitted with the grant application.

This application should be rejected for all the reasons discussed above.

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**(2)** (855) 518-0289

See All Plans »

#### 5. PMT - 8.4% Available in Hazelton



DSL Internet

Speeds up to:

1.5mbps

Pricing starts at:

\$49.95/month

Plans:

4

SET UP NEW SERVICE:

**(800) 322-4074** 

## 6. SafeLink Internet - 100.0% Available in Hazelton



Fixed Wireless Internet

Speeds up to:

25mbps

Pricing starts at:

\$59/month

Plans:

4

SET UP NEW SERVICE:

(208) 932-4000





Fixed Wireless Internet

Speeds up to:

10mbps

Pricing starts at:

\$34.95/month

Plans:

4

SET UP NEW SERVICE:

© (208) 736-0188

8. SpeedConnect - 6.3% Available in Hazelton



Connect where you live and play

Fixed Wireless Internet

Speeds up to:

10mbps

Pricing starts at:

\$39.95/month

Plans:

3

SET UP NEW SERVICE:

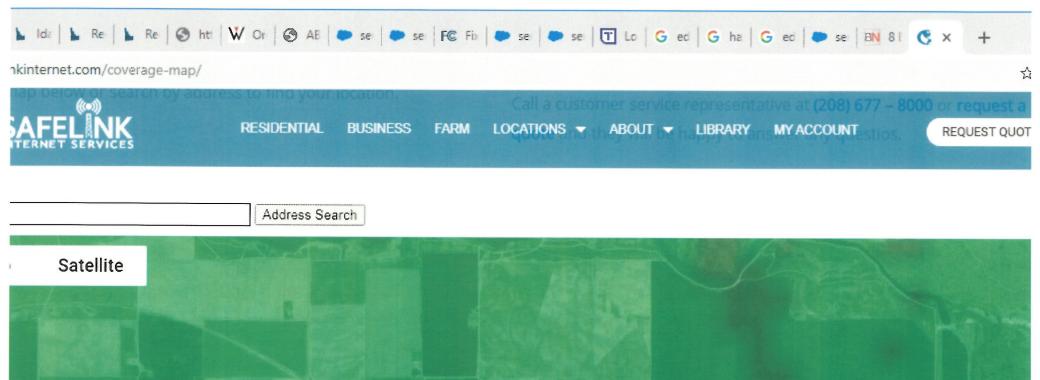
**(866) 297-2900** 

### Internet Access in Hazelton, Idaho

3-4 Internet providers can provide service to the average Hazelton location. In context, this is a high amount of choice in comparison to other communities. Competition is correlated with lower pricing.

The data listed here is sourced from FCC coverage reports. Listings here are cross-validated against privatized databases and direct provider reporting to provide more accurate listings than is available from the FCC directly. Speed and pricing data is sourced by our data division, who collect thousands of plans each year. There are a total of 165 Internet plans in Hazelton from 2014–present, with 36 Internet plans currently available in the area.













Boise 10350 W. Emerald Boise, ID 83704 (208)332-0188 Twin Falls 460 Main Ave S Twin Falls, ID 83301 (208)736-0188

http://www.tek-finity.com

I am writing to challenge the application by the City of Murtaugh, applicant ID APP-004237.

The application submitted states Tekfinity only provides a maximum service of 10Mbps. This is incorrect.

Currently my companies serve the school district with 500 Mbps symmetrical Internet Access, and we also offer the community broadband services up to 25M.

As stated in the City's application, and not disputed by Whitecloud, Tekfinity has 100% coverage of the City of Murtaugh. The application states that Tekfinity only offers a 10Mbps plan, this is not accurate. Tekfinity offers many plans, and our customers choose what is right for them. We do have a plan that meets the 25 Mbps / 3 Mbps requirements.

The application does not meet the criteria of 50% of households are currently in an unserved area and 50% of households is in an underserved area.

The approval of the application from the City of Murtaugh, partnering with Whitecloud, will present yet another wireless carrier in the area utilizing the same or similar technology and offering speeds that are already currently available in the area. There are currently 3 providers that already serve this area with wireless technology.

Here are screenshots of bandwidth tests performed to clients in the area.

Broadbandnow speedtest will not report these speeds as our end users are not actually subscribed to these packages. These tests depict speeds available.

Below are 5 customers with current services, and the speeds they can receive.

### katie@whitecloudnetworks.com

**From:** eric@whitecloudcom.com

**Sent:** Thursday, July 23, 2020 11:25 AM **To:** katie@whitecloudnetworks.com

**Subject:** FW: Hazelton, ID

From: Clark, Kyle

Sent: Thursday, July 23, 2020 10:43 AM

To: Eric Smallwood <eric@whitecloudcom.com>; 'Joe Shelton' <joe@whitecloudcom.com>

Subject: Hazelton, ID



#### Kyle Clark

Acquisition Sales Executive CenturyLink

999 W Main St Boise, ID 83702

### **Magaly Carrillo**

From: Stephanie Lederhos <steph@elinternetnw.com>

**Sent:** Friday, July 24, 2020 5:00 PM

To: COM Broadband

**Subject:** Challenges to Broadband Grant Application for Boundary County

**Attachments:** Challenge to Intermax Proposal - Curley Creek.pdf; Geospatial Analysis Curley Creek and East Moyie

to Montana Border E.L. Internet Northwest.pdf; Intermax Networks News Article original BC.pdf;

Intermax Networks News Article.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

Attached documents are challenges to broadband grant applications for Boundary County.

Thank you,

#### **Stephanie Franke**



Office Manager E.L. Internet Northwest 208-946-4147



## **64 Automation Lane Bonners Ferry ID 83805** (208) 946-4147 elinternetnw.com

July 24th, 2020

State of Idaho

Department of Commerce

Re: Challenge to application

Boundary County Unincorporated Area

Applicant ID APP-004230

Page 3368 through 3545, of 6450

Application Title "Curley Creek"

This challenge is presented regarding application for an unincorporated area in Boundary County for project entitled "Curley Creek", presented by the applicant Boundary County with ISP, Intermax as contractor. The information provided in conjunction with the challenge is pertinent for the Idaho Department of Commerce's determination of award and should be evaluated thoroughly prior to making their decision of award.

We believe that the errors made by the applicant were inadvertently due to time constraints and lack of technical knowledge in wireless and fiber technology. Having said this, these errors are substantial and require review and response by the applicant. Without this information, the Idaho Department of Commerce may inadvertently award grant funds where they should not be awarded; this in our humble, but technically qualified, opinion. The information provided indicates the applicant was in error when considering provider Intermax as a contractor for unincorporated areas within their jurisdictional control.

Challenges and supporting document references as follows:

1. Applicant prioritized two providers for certain project areas. Two ISP's were weighted based on same or similar project names; however, projects are only similar in name, not service area. Service areas between providers are not comparable, infrastructure efforts are completely different. In this project, Curley Creek is showing 887 "addresses" by the applicant. For comparison, the applicant's application for E.L. Internet Northwest is named "Curley Creek and East Moyie to Montana Border", which includes Curley Creek and east Moyie Springs areas with a total of 323 "end users". What was the methodology utilized by the applicant to compare projects for prioritization?



## **64 Automation Lane Bonners Ferry ID 83805** (208) 946-4147 elinternetnw.com

2. Although with good intent, the applicant based their decision of prioritization of projects on an ineffective method of project area evaluation. We challenge the information provided in the application in the following areas.

a. Applicant failed to demonstrate capability to provide service to "end users", instead solely gave an "address count" within a given project area, this is an arbitrary number when used for this purpose. With many geographic limitations in Boundary County for fixed wireless, it is not feasible to provide service to every address as the applicant suggests by their service map. How did the applicant determine cost per residence without further information than simply total "addresses" within the project area? And how many "addresses" can the applicant reasonably expect to provide to the "end users" within the claimed project area? At a minimum, there should be an attempt to determine which "addresses" are feasible and which are not. There was no indication with the presentation by Intermax to the applicant, nor is any data provided in the actual application that any attempt was made to determine this crucial information.

Factual information related to challenge presented in (2)(a): From a technical perspective, to attain even moderate accuracy of cost per household, requires a study at a more granular level than simply "addresses" per project area. This fact is highlighted in the applicants submitted supporting information. Although highlighted in several areas throughout the submitted information, key data is embodied in the Idaho Broadband Task Force draft report, specifically in the "Mapping Committee Report."

The excerpts starting in the next paragraph, support the method utilized by Boundary County (applicant) through E.L. Internet Northwest as a preferred provider on several projects. E.L. Internet Northwest supplied actual "end user" delivery capability through geospatial studies in our presentation to the applicant. Most of this data was included with the applicant's submission to the State, however the actual methodology and mapping were not included. For the States consideration, please refer to PDF attachment entitled "Geospatial Analysis Curley Creek and East Moyie to Montana Border E.L. Internet Northwest". Page one is the entire project area, page two and three are close ups of the same area. Each "end user" location was evaluated for the potential of signal delivery, green "end user" locations have the potential of fixed wireless with our current and proposed new infrastructure, red "end users" do not have access. E.L. Internet Northwest's primary fixed wireless infrastructure consists of 18 tower locations strategically placed county wide for the best customer coverage. E.L. Internet Northwest's studies based on these fixed asset locations are an honest representation of service capability in the project area. These numbers will be slightly off due to obstacles such as trees which require individual site surveys, but typically these are hurdles that can be addressed. Hundreds of man hours went into these studies, what did the applicant receive from Intermax demonstrating this or any effort for their community?



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In the applicant's attachments was provided the Idaho Broadband Task Force "Mapping Committee report" the following were findings of the committee. We concur with the report supplied with this application, which demonstrates the applicant did not take all the information in the report into consideration. E.L. Internet Northwest addressed these areas that the committee anticipated would be applied by the FCC by mid-2020, in other words, now. Direct Excerpts of the report, emphasis on blue highlights:

"In the Report and Order, the FCC requires fixed providers to submit broadband coverage polygons:

• Service available to end-user locations within 10 business days, include maximum download and upload speeds and technology."

"Utilizing the Digital Opportunity Data Collection by the FCC will help the Idaho Broadband effort by providing more granular data of broadband availability for Idaho communities. This improved information should:

- Provide coverage maps on a much more granular level than the current census-block-level methodology.
- Identify unserved or underserved areas by clarifying where service exists, and where it does not through maps showing providers' network boundaries, the maximum download/upload speeds offered within that network boundary and the technology for providing service."

"Polygon maps/shapefiles produced by service providers can be combined by an agency (e.g Idaho Broadband Office) to produce geographically accurate broadband availability maps."

"FCC maps show an entire census block is served if only one location has access to service. Thus if only one location in a census block is able to receive broadband and the rest are not, it reports as 100% of the census block is served. This inaccuracy is common in Idaho due to census blocks comprised of large geographic areas"

"Deployment data – broadband transmission technologies and the capabilities of these technologies available to a given geographic location; terrain challenges are also a factor."

Recommendations of committee.

"Utilize the new FCC Digital Opportunity Data Collection when available for more accurate and detailed broadband availability mapping for all fixed broadband providers. The new data will provide the granularity and consumer input/validation that are key shortcomings today."



**64 Automation Lane Bonners Ferry ID 83805** (208) 946-4147 elinternetnw.com

- 3. The applicant failed to provide information which defines the scope, correct schedule, or correct Grant Budget for the project. We challenge the information provided in the application in the following related areas.
  - a. No information related to equipment, radio gear, towers or construction was supplied. How is it possible with the information provided for the grant administrator to verify what was installed or completed? Without this transparency, the applicant nor the public has any method to follow progress, or even verify anything was accomplished with the funds awarded. Why was this information not provided as should have accompanied the application?
  - b. Every project schedule provided for every project in Boundary County, when ISP Intermax is the contractor, is identical. We do not understand how the projects each show the exact same schedule when they were described as different approaches on each, none appear to be specific to the project. More importantly, each project schedule shows all work being completed by Fatbeam rather than Intermax? Fatbeam does not even list wireless technology as part of what they do, so how are they performing the work? Just point of interest, 35 applications when Intermax is the contractor for Kootenai, Bonner, and Boundary County all have this exact same project schedule as part of their application. See attached Pdf document entitled "Project schedule Intermax".
  - c. Every Grant Budget provided for every project by the applicant Boundary County, when ISP Intermax is the contractor, is identical. We do not understand how all Grant Budgets each show the exact same information when in the body of the application the figures are not what is shown on the Grant Budget? As a point of interest, 35 applications, when Intermax is the contractor for Kootenai, Bonner, and Boundary County, all have this exact same Grant Budget as part of their application. See attached Pdf document entitled "Grant Budget Intermax".
- 4. Applicant Boundary County failed to place emphasis on one of the requirements of the application. The application states "The CARES Act funding received by the State of Idaho will fund projects across the state that **create and retain local jobs** and result in purposeful outcomes,". We challenge this application and request of the applicant answer the following:
  - a. Applicant when utilizing ISP provider and contractor Intermax, did not consider the local community they govern, Boundary County. Intermax has no offices or permanently facility supplying support in Boundary County. Intermax's offices are located in Coeur d'Alene Idaho, some 70 miles from the project areas. How is support of this company good for the local economy and tax base within their jurisdiction?



#### 64 Automation Lane Bonners Ferry ID 83805 (208) 946-4147 elinternetnw.com

b. E.L. Internet Northwest currently provides 23 local jobs, growing continuously. E.L. Internet Northwest has a large local facility and support fully the local economy. E.L. Internet Northwest creates a substantial tax base for the operation of Boundary County government, the applicant.

- 5. Final Challenge and this of the utmost importance. The applicant failed to consider what was discussed by their contractor Intermax for several of these projects. We challenge the following items:
  - a. Applicant failed to consider an existing grant which their supported contractor Intermax has achieved. In 2018, Intermax was awarded over an eleven-million-dollar grant (\$11,000,000.00). Roughly three million dollars dedicated to Boundary County. By Intermax's admission in open meeting, ten months ago they received these funds. With these funds in hand, which were defined to bring Boundary County to 25/3 Broadband speed using wireless technology and fiber, why are they applying through the applicant and this grant project for these funds? Please see two Pdf attached articles, one from Intermax, entitled "Intermax Networks News Article", the second entitled "Intermax Networks News Article original BC"
  - b. Applicant failed to consider the loss of funding for their community through the Cares Act Grant. Statements made in open meeting by Intermax, wherein they said "if we utilize funds from the Cares Act grant, those same amounts must be removed from the \$11,000,000.00 already achieved. Does the applicant recall this discussion? And if so, why does the applicant wish to reduce the amount being available to their community by the amount Intermax would receive from these funds, if awarded? As a challenger, how does this make sense to the applicant, can you please explain?

In closing, E.L. Internet Northwest is a community member, Boundary County is our home. It is unfortunate that we are placed in a position to challenge Boundary County as the applicant. We support this community, we have never raised our pricing, only lowered it, while investing millions in infrastructure. We hope the applicant will reconsider their applications based on the information we provided and withdraw their support of a company that is not a community member. The same company that already has in hand three million dollars of Federal monies to compete with a company that has made it all happen with their own.

Best regards,

Eric Lederhos

Erin Lo Senton



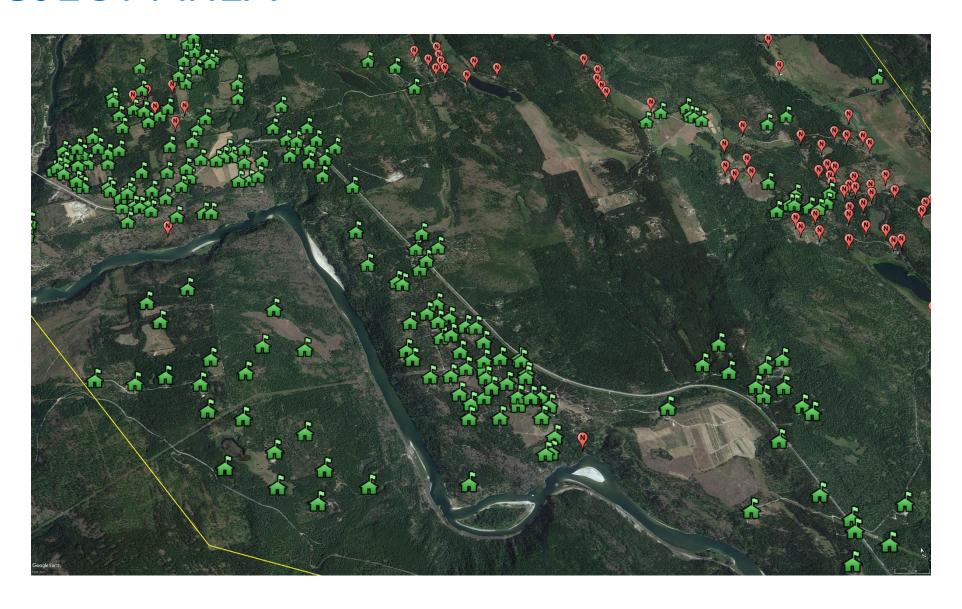
## **PROJECT AREA**

Proposed project will service 323 homes!

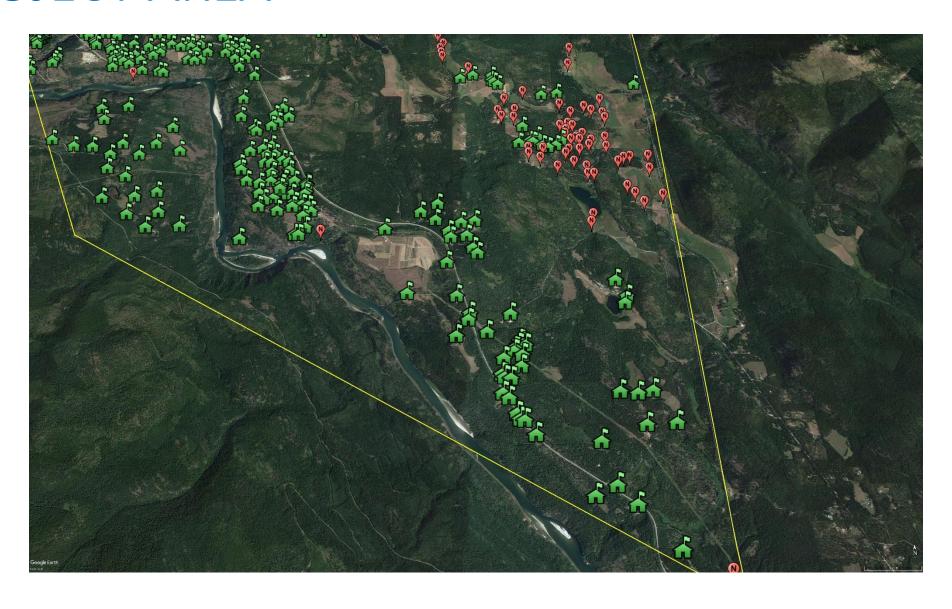
Over 71% of homes in this area!



# **PROJECT AREA**



# **PROJECT AREA**





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# Coeur d'Alene company receives federal contract to expand and improve internet access and service in Boundary County along with other areas of Idaho Panhandle

September 12, 2018

A Coeur d'Alene internet service provider, whose market includes Boundary County, has received a large federal award to finance major upgrades in internet speed and access to areas of Boundary County and other parts of the Idaho panhandle that have limited or no internet service.

Mike Kennedy, President of Coeur d'Alene-based Intermax Networks, announced that Intermax was awarded a contract for \$11.5 million from the Federal Communications Commission to expand



broadband internet service in rural areas of Boundary, Bonner, Kootenai, and Benewah counties of Idaho, and Spokane County in Washington.

Mr. Kennedy explained that funding for the contract comes from the Universal Service Fund, a small fee that all cellphone

users pay with their monthly bills. The money for the contract is spread over ten years. "This contract will allow our company, with about 3,000 customers, to invest more rapidly in expensive infrastructure, which in turn will ramp up speeds for many rural users from snail's pace to roadrunner," said Mr. Kennedy. He projected that Intermax could potentially quadruple its customer base over the span of the program.

He stressed his belief that some of the biggest impact of better and faster internet service in the rural areas targeted for upgrade will be in economic development and in educational improvement. He went on to give some examples of some of the benefits he foresees with faster internet in North Idaho's rural areas. "Schools in the areas will have access to educational content that now is out of reach. Kids who can't visit the new Idaho State Historical Museum in Boise, for instance, will at least be able to take video tours of the fabulous facility. Lectures from renowned educators can be live-streamed into classrooms."

"What has us really excited are the doors that will open for rural entrepreneurs and businesses whose potential is now throttled by limited or non-existent internet access. The ability to conduct e-commerce will expand dramatically. As our economy shifts away from bricks and mortar workplaces toward digital domains, an increasing number of jobs will depend upon high-speed internet capability — and Intermax will do its part to provide that. Best of all, some exceedingly talented people won't have to abandon their rural roots to make a good living," Mr. Kennedy said.

He went on to clarify that it will take a few years for most people living in the affected rural areas to begin to receive the benefits of this program because of the buildout that will be required. As far as exactly how many years, he says it will depend on each location. The funding for the program won't be available until mid-2019. This is a 10-year award, with the funding allocated equally across the 10 years. However, Mr. Kennedy says they don't plan to allocate the buildout equally across 10 years. "We're going to front load as much as we can in the first year and following years. We believe it will take us five years to build out all the necessary infrastructure. Our goal is to have it done within five years."

What is his estimate for the buildout to be completed in the Bonners Ferry area? "I'm comfortable to say that in that area, maybe 18 months to two years. That would include improvement in the current system and taking internet access into new areas."

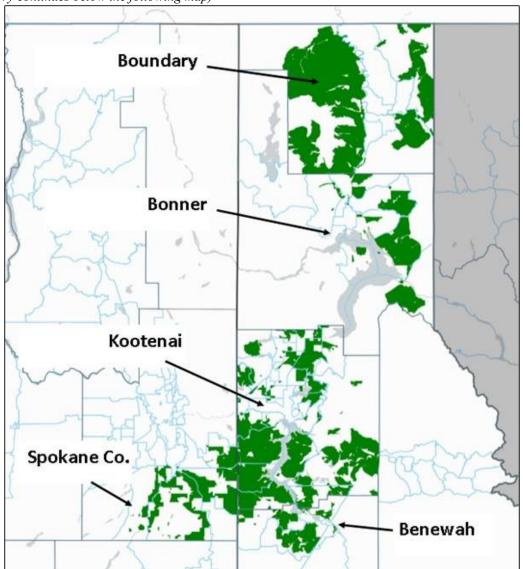
In Boundary County, Intermax service is currently a wireless system. All of the funding Intermax will

receive from this award is designated for providing wireless microwave internet access, at a speed of 25 Mbps download and upload speed of 3 Mbps. Mr. Kennedy stressed that even though internet access supplied will be via microwave wireless, "Our backbone from Seattle to Sandpoint is all fiber. That last mile or so to the houses is microwave LTE."

He predicts that the price to individuals and families in Boundary County won't change much when this new internet system is built and put into use. "Currently our average monthly bill to supply internet access to a home is \$59. Our goal is to keep it at that amount, yet still provide more bandwidth."

Intermax has provided a map of the Idaho panhandle with areas marked in green. A copy of that map is included with this article. "The green areas on the map are the areas for which we have received funding support," he said. Those are the specific areas that are targeted for these improvements of greater speed and better access. But he goes on to say that even areas on the map not marked in green will benefit from these improvements. "I think they will improve also as we improve the backbone of our system and the capacity of the system throughout," he said.

(Story continues below the following map)



On this map of the Idaho Panhandle and eastern Washington, the areas marked in green are the areas targeted for improvement in internet access and speed with the FCC contract recently awarded to Intermax Networks of Coeeur d'Alene. The company plans to begin in 2019 the buildout necessary to achieve the goal of internet systems improvements in these areas.

(Map provided by Intermax Networks)

Asked if his company had worked with any local Boundary County agencies or government entities in

putting together the proposal for this funding from the Federal Communications Commission, he replied that they had no formal association with any local agency. "We were under a very strict non-communication agreement stipulated by the FCC," he said.

There are many areas in Boundary County that have exceptionally slow internet speed, or no internet access at all. The aim of this FCC contract with Intermax is to improve that landscape dramatically, and Mr. Kennedy is hoping we see those improvements in Boundary County and throughout the Panhandle within the next five years.

Questions or comments about this article? Click here to e-mail!

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By Mike Kennedy | September 14, 2018 | Categories: In the News

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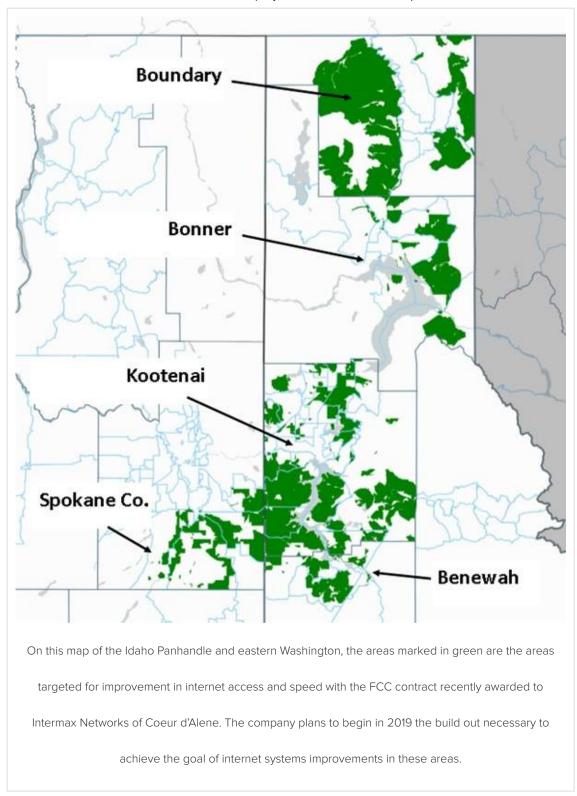
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Click here to view the original article as it appeared on the Bonners Ferry news site.



### **Intermax Networks Acquires Spokane-based Tel-**

### West

By Marcee Hartzell | June 1, 2020

No Comments



## 5.9 GHz Band Boosts Consumer Internet Access During Covid-19 Pandemic

By Marcee Hartzell | May 11, 2020

No Comments

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No Comments



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By Marcee Hartzell | July 11, 2019

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### **Magaly Carrillo**

From: Stephanie Lederhos <steph@elinternetnw.com>

**Sent:** Friday, July 24, 2020 5:00 PM

To: COM Broadband

**Subject:** Challenges to Broadband Grant Application for Boundary County

**Attachments:** Challenge to Intermax Proposal - Meadow Creek.pdf; Intermax Networks News Article original

BC.pdf; Intermax Networks News Article.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

Attached documents are challenges to broadband grant applications for Boundary County.

Thank you,

### **Stephanie Franke**



Office Manager E.L. Internet Northwest 208-946-4147



## **64 Automation Lane Bonners Ferry ID 83805** (208) 946-4147 elinternetnw.com

July 24th, 2020

State of Idaho

Department of Commerce

Re: Challenge to application

Boundary County Unincorporated Area

Applicant ID APP-004230

Page 2790 through 2967, of 6450

Application Title "Meadow Creek"

This challenge is presented regarding application for an unincorporated area in Boundary County for project entitled "Meadow Creek", presented by the applicant Boundary County with ISP, Intermax as contractor. The information provided in conjunction with the challenge is pertinent for the Idaho Department of Commerce's determination of award and should be evaluated thoroughly prior to making their decision of award.

We believe that the errors made by the applicant were inadvertently due to time constraints and lack of technical knowledge in wireless and fiber technology. Having said this, these errors are substantial and require review and response by the applicant. Without this information, the Idaho Department of Commerce may inadvertently award grant funds where they should not be awarded; this in our humble, but technically qualified, opinion. The information provided indicates the applicant was in error when considering provider Intermax as a contractor for unincorporated areas within their jurisdictional control.

Challenges and supporting document references as follows:

- 1. Although with good intent, the applicant based their decision of prioritization of projects on an ineffective method of project area evaluation. We challenge the information provided in the application in the following areas.
  - **a.** Applicant failed to demonstrate capability to provide service to "end users", instead solely gave an "address count" within a given project area, this is an arbitrary number when used for this purpose. With many geographic limitations in Boundary County for fixed wireless, it is not feasible to provide service to every address as the applicant suggests by their service map. How did the



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**b.** applicant determine cost per residence without further information than simply total "addresses" within the project area? And how many "addresses" can the applicant reasonably expect to provide to the "end users" within the claimed project area? At a minimum, there should be an attempt to determine which "addresses" are feasible and which are not. There was no indication with the presentation by Intermax to the applicant, nor is any data provided in the actual application that any attempt was made to determine this crucial information.

Factual information related to challenge presented in (2)(a): From a technical perspective, to attain even moderate accuracy of cost per household, requires a study at a more granular level than simply "addresses" per project area. This fact is highlighted in the applicants submitted supporting information. Although highlighted in several areas throughout the submitted information, key data is embodied in the Idaho Broadband Task Force draft report, specifically in the "Mapping Committee Report."

The excerpts starting in the next paragraph, support the method utilized by Boundary County (applicant) through E.L. Internet Northwest as a preferred provider on several projects. E.L. Internet Northwest supplied actual "end user" delivery capability through geospatial studies in our presentation to the applicant. E.L. Internet Northwest's primary fixed wireless infrastructure consists of 18 tower locations strategically placed county wide for the best customer coverage. We did not put in for a Meadow Creek project, this area is well covered by two of our tower locations, therefore we did not put in for funding for this area. What did the applicant receive from Intermax demonstrating any granular effort, or any effort for their community?

In the applicant's attachments was provided the Idaho Broadband Task Force "Mapping Committee report" the following were findings of the committee. We concur with the report supplied with this application, which demonstrates the applicant did not take all the information in the report into consideration. E.L. Internet Northwest addressed these areas that the committee anticipated would be applied by the FCC by mid-2020, in other words, now. Direct Excerpts of the report, emphasis on blue highlights:

"In the Report and Order, the FCC requires fixed providers to submit broadband coverage polygons:

• Service available to end-user locations within 10 business days, include maximum download and upload speeds and technology."

"Utilizing the Digital Opportunity Data Collection by the FCC will help the Idaho Broadband effort by providing more granular data of broadband availability for Idaho communities. This improved information should:

 Provide coverage maps on a much more granular level than the current census-block-level methodology.

•

•



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• Identify unserved or underserved areas by clarifying where service exists, and where it does not through maps showing providers' network boundaries, the maximum download/upload speeds offered within that network boundary and the technology for providing service."

"Polygon maps/shapefiles produced by service providers can be combined by an agency (e.g Idaho Broadband Office) to produce geographically accurate broadband availability maps."

"FCC maps show an entire census block is served if only one location has access to service. Thus if only one location in a census block is able to receive broadband and the rest are not, it reports as 100% of the census block is served. This inaccuracy is common in Idaho due to census blocks comprised of large geographic areas"

"Deployment data – broadband transmission technologies and the capabilities of these technologies available to a given geographic location; terrain challenges are also a factor."

#### Recommendations of committee.

"Utilize the new FCC Digital Opportunity Data Collection when available for more accurate and detailed broadband availability mapping for all fixed broadband providers. The new data will provide the granularity and consumer input/validation that are key shortcomings today."

- 2. The applicant failed to provide information which defines the scope, correct schedule, or correct Grant Budget for the project. We challenge the information provided in the application in the following related areas.
  - No information related to equipment, radio gear, towers or construction was supplied. How is it possible with the information provided for the grant administrator to verify what was installed or completed? Without this transparency, the applicant nor the public has any method to follow progress, or even verify anything was accomplished with the funds awarded. Why was this information not provided as should have accompanied the application?
  - b. Every project schedule provided for every project in Boundary County, when ISP Intermax is the contractor, is identical. We do not understand how the projects each show the exact same schedule when they were described as different approaches on each, none appear to be specific to the project. More importantly, each project schedule shows all work being completed by Fatbeam rather than Intermax? Fatbeam does not even list wireless technology as part of what they do, so how are they performing the work? Just point of interest, 35 applications when Intermax is the contractor for Kootenai, Bonner, and Boundary County all have this exact same project schedule as part of their application. See attached Pdf document entitled "Project schedule Intermax".



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- c. Every Grant Budget provided for every project by the applicant Boundary County, when ISP Intermax is the contractor, is identical. We do not understand how all Grant Budgets each show the exact same information when in the body of the application the figures are not what is shown on the Grant Budget? As a point of interest, 35 applications, when Intermax is the contractor for Kootenai, Bonner, and Boundary County, all have this exact same Grant Budget as part of their application. See attached Pdf document entitled "Grant Budget Intermax".
- 3. Applicant Boundary County failed to place emphasis on one of the requirements of the application. The application states "The CARES Act funding received by the State of Idaho will fund projects across the state that **create and retain local jobs** and result in purposeful outcomes,". We challenge this application and request of the applicant answer the following:
  - a. Applicant when utilizing ISP provider and contractor Intermax, did not consider the local community they govern, Boundary County. Intermax has no offices or permanently facility supplying support in Boundary County. Intermax's offices are located in Coeur d'Alene Idaho, some 70 miles from the project areas. How is support of this company good for the local economy and tax base within their jurisdiction?
  - b. E.L. Internet Northwest currently provides 23 local jobs, growing continuously. E.L. Internet Northwest has a large local facility and support fully the local economy. E.L. Internet Northwest creates a substantial tax base for the operation of Boundary County government, the applicant.
- 4. Final Challenge and this of the utmost importance. The applicant failed to consider what was discussed by their contractor Intermax for several of these projects. We challenge the following items:
  - a. Applicant failed to consider an existing grant which their supported contractor Intermax has achieved. In 2018, Intermax was awarded over an eleven-million-dollar grant (\$11,000,000.00). Roughly three million dollars dedicated to Boundary County. By Intermax's admission in open meeting, ten months ago they received these funds. With these funds in hand, which were defined to bring Boundary County to 25/3 Broadband speed using wireless technology and fiber, why are they applying through the applicant and this grant project for these funds? Please see two Pdf attached articles, one from Intermax, entitled "Intermax Networks News Article", the second entitled "Intermax Networks News Article original BC"
  - b. Applicant failed to consider the loss of funding for their community through the Cares Act Grant. Statements made in open meeting by Intermax, wherein they said "if we utilize funds from the Cares Act grant, those same amounts must be removed from the \$11,000,000.00 already achieved. Does the applicant recall this discussion? And if so, why does the applicant wish to reduce the amount being available to their community by the amount Intermax would receive from these funds, if awarded? As a challenger, how does this make sense to the applicant, can you please explain?



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In closing, E.L. Internet Northwest is a community member, Boundary County is our home. It is unfortunate that we are placed in a position to challenge Boundary County as the applicant. We support this community, we have never raised our pricing, only lowered it, while investing millions in infrastructure. We hope the applicant will reconsider their applications based on the information we provided and withdraw their support of a company that is not a community member. The same company that already has in hand three million dollars of Federal monies to compete with a company that has made it all happen with their own.

Best regards,

Eric Lederhos

Evi Lederlor

**Elinternet** 



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# Coeur d'Alene company receives federal contract to expand and improve internet access and service in Boundary County along with other areas of Idaho Panhandle

September 12, 2018

A Coeur d'Alene internet service provider, whose market includes Boundary County, has received a large federal award to finance major upgrades in internet speed and access to areas of Boundary County and other parts of the Idaho panhandle that have limited or no internet service.

Mike Kennedy, President of Coeur d'Alene-based Intermax Networks, announced that Intermax was awarded a contract for \$11.5 million from the Federal Communications Commission to expand



broadband internet service in rural areas of Boundary, Bonner, Kootenai, and Benewah counties of Idaho, and Spokane County in Washington.

Mr. Kennedy explained that funding for the contract comes from the Universal Service Fund, a small fee that all cellphone

users pay with their monthly bills. The money for the contract is spread over ten years. "This contract will allow our company, with about 3,000 customers, to invest more rapidly in expensive infrastructure, which in turn will ramp up speeds for many rural users from snail's pace to roadrunner," said Mr. Kennedy. He projected that Intermax could potentially quadruple its customer base over the span of the program.

He stressed his belief that some of the biggest impact of better and faster internet service in the rural areas targeted for upgrade will be in economic development and in educational improvement. He went on to give some examples of some of the benefits he foresees with faster internet in North Idaho's rural areas. "Schools in the areas will have access to educational content that now is out of reach. Kids who can't visit the new Idaho State Historical Museum in Boise, for instance, will at least be able to take video tours of the fabulous facility. Lectures from renowned educators can be live-streamed into classrooms."

"What has us really excited are the doors that will open for rural entrepreneurs and businesses whose potential is now throttled by limited or non-existent internet access. The ability to conduct e-commerce will expand dramatically. As our economy shifts away from bricks and mortar workplaces toward digital domains, an increasing number of jobs will depend upon high-speed internet capability — and Intermax will do its part to provide that. Best of all, some exceedingly talented people won't have to abandon their rural roots to make a good living," Mr. Kennedy said.

He went on to clarify that it will take a few years for most people living in the affected rural areas to begin to receive the benefits of this program because of the buildout that will be required. As far as exactly how many years, he says it will depend on each location. The funding for the program won't be available until mid-2019. This is a 10-year award, with the funding allocated equally across the 10 years. However, Mr. Kennedy says they don't plan to allocate the buildout equally across 10 years. "We're going to front load as much as we can in the first year and following years. We believe it will take us five years to build out all the necessary infrastructure. Our goal is to have it done within five years."

What is his estimate for the buildout to be completed in the Bonners Ferry area? "I'm comfortable to say that in that area, maybe 18 months to two years. That would include improvement in the current system and taking internet access into new areas."

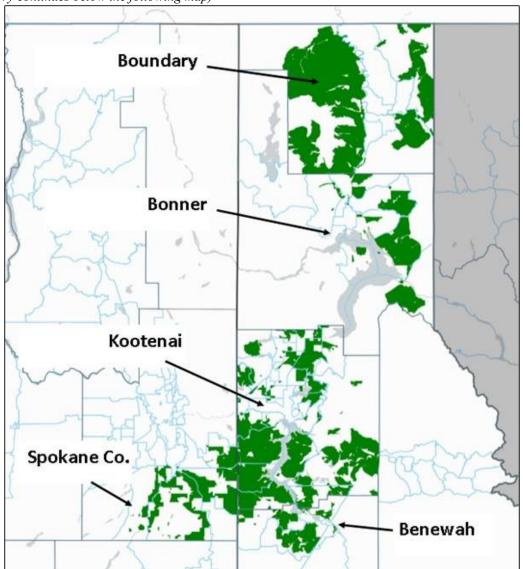
In Boundary County, Intermax service is currently a wireless system. All of the funding Intermax will

receive from this award is designated for providing wireless microwave internet access, at a speed of 25 Mbps download and upload speed of 3 Mbps. Mr. Kennedy stressed that even though internet access supplied will be via microwave wireless, "Our backbone from Seattle to Sandpoint is all fiber. That last mile or so to the houses is microwave LTE."

He predicts that the price to individuals and families in Boundary County won't change much when this new internet system is built and put into use. "Currently our average monthly bill to supply internet access to a home is \$59. Our goal is to keep it at that amount, yet still provide more bandwidth."

Intermax has provided a map of the Idaho panhandle with areas marked in green. A copy of that map is included with this article. "The green areas on the map are the areas for which we have received funding support," he said. Those are the specific areas that are targeted for these improvements of greater speed and better access. But he goes on to say that even areas on the map not marked in green will benefit from these improvements. "I think they will improve also as we improve the backbone of our system and the capacity of the system throughout," he said.

(Story continues below the following map)



On this map of the Idaho Panhandle and eastern Washington, the areas marked in green are the areas targeted for improvement in internet access and speed with the FCC contract recently awarded to Intermax Networks of Coeeur d'Alene. The company plans to begin in 2019 the buildout necessary to achieve the goal of internet systems improvements in these areas.

(Map provided by Intermax Networks)

Asked if his company had worked with any local Boundary County agencies or government entities in

putting together the proposal for this funding from the Federal Communications Commission, he replied that they had no formal association with any local agency. "We were under a very strict non-communication agreement stipulated by the FCC," he said.

There are many areas in Boundary County that have exceptionally slow internet speed, or no internet access at all. The aim of this FCC contract with Intermax is to improve that landscape dramatically, and Mr. Kennedy is hoping we see those improvements in Boundary County and throughout the Panhandle within the next five years.

Questions or comments about this article? Click here to e-mail!

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## **COEUR D'ALENE** RECEIVES FEDERAL CONTRACT

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By Mike Kennedy | September 14, 2018 | Categories: In the News

A Coeur d'Alene internet service provider, whose market includes Boundary County, has received a large federal award to finance major upgrades in internet speed and access to areas of Boundary County and other parts of the Idaho panhandle that have limited or no internet service.

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"What has us really excited are the doors that will open for rural entrepreneurs and businesses whose potential is now throttled by limited or non-existent internet access. The ability to conduct e-commerce will expand dramatically. As our economy shifts away from bricks and mortar workplaces toward digital domains, an increasing number of jobs will depend upon high-speed internet capability — and Intermax will do its part to provide that. Best of all, some exceedingly talented people won't have to abandon their rural roots to make a good living," Mr. Kennedy said.

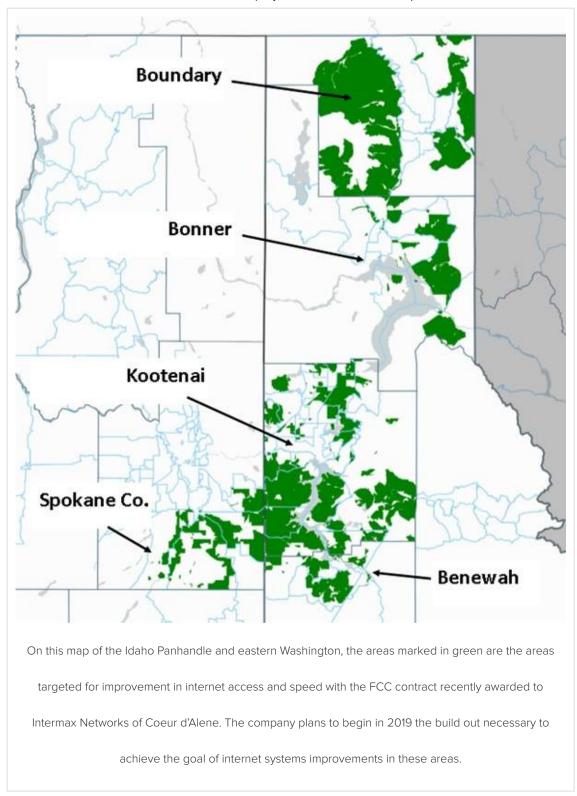
He went on to clarify that it will take a few years for most people living in the affected rural areas to begin to receive the benefits of this program because of the buildout that will be required. As far as exactly how many years, he says it will depend on each location. The funding for the program won't be available until mid-2019. This is a 10-year award, with the funding allocated equally across the 10 years. However, Mr. Kennedy says they don't plan to allocate the buildout equally across 10 years. "We're going to front load as much as we can in the first year and following years. We believe it will take us five years to build out all the necessary infrastructure. Our goal is to have it done within five years."

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In Boundary County, Intermax service is currently a wireless system. All of the funding Intermax will receive from this award is designated for providing wireless microwave internet access, at a speed of 25 Mbps download and upload speed of 3 Mbps. Mr. Kennedy stressed that even though internet access supplied will be via microwave wireless, "Our backbone from Seattle to Sandpoint is all fiber. That last mile or so to the houses is microwave LTE."

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"We were under a very strict non-communication agreement stipulated by the FCC," he said.

There are many areas in Boundary County that have exceptionally slow internet speed, or no internet access at all. The aim of this FCC contract with Intermax is to improve that landscape dramatically, and Mr. Kennedy is hoping we see those improvements in Boundary County and throughout the Panhandle within the next five years.

Click here to view the original article as it appeared on the Bonners Ferry news site.



### **Intermax Networks Acquires Spokane-based Tel-**

### West

By Marcee Hartzell | June 1, 2020

No Comments



## 5.9 GHz Band Boosts Consumer Internet Access During Covid-19 Pandemic

By Marcee Hartzell | May 11, 2020

No Comments

## Frontier Communications Attempts to Derail Rural Broadband Expansion in Idaho

By Marcee Hartzell | April 24, 2020



No Comments



## High-speed fiber 'net coming to Schweitzer Mountain Resort

By Marcee Hartzell | August 5, 2019

No Comments



## INTERMAX FIBER INTERNET CONSTRUCTION TO SMR STARTS

By Marcee Hartzell | August 1, 2019

No Comments



## Brookshire to be First Fiber to the Home Project in Kootenai County

By Marcee Hartzell | July 11, 2019

No Comments

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### **Magaly Carrillo**

From: Stephanie Lederhos <steph@elinternetnw.com>

**Sent:** Friday, July 24, 2020 5:01 PM

To: COM Broadband

**Subject:** Challenges to Broadband Grant Application for Boundary County

Attachments: Challenge to Intermax Proposal - Naples.pdf; Geospatial Analysis Naples and Highland Flats of

Boundary County E.L. Internet Northwest.pdf; Geospatial Analysis Deep Creek and Pleasant Valley area if Boundary County, Idaho E.L. Internet Northwest.pdf; Intermax Networks News Article original

BC.pdf; Intermax Networks News Article.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

Attached documents are challenges to broadband grant applications for Boundary County.

Thank you,

#### **Stephanie Franke**



Office Manager E.L. Internet Northwest 208-946-4147



### 64 Automation Lane Bonners Ferry ID 83805

(208) 946-4147 elinternetnw.com

July 24th, 2020

State of Idaho

Department of Commerce

Re: Challenge to application

Boundary County Unincorporated Area

Applicant ID APP-004230

Page 3725 through 3902, of 6450

Application Title "Naples"

This challenge is presented regarding application for an unincorporated area in Boundary County for project entitled "Naples", presented by the applicant Boundary County with ISP, Intermax as contractor. The information provided in conjunction with the challenge is pertinent for the Idaho Department of Commerce's determination of award and should be evaluated thoroughly prior to making their decision of award.

We believe that the errors made by the applicant were inadvertently due to time constraints and lack of technical knowledge in wireless and fiber technology. Having said this, these errors are substantial and require review and response by the applicant. Without this information, the Idaho Department of Commerce may inadvertently award grant funds where they should not be awarded; this in our humble, but technically qualified, opinion. The information provided indicates the applicant was in error when considering provider Intermax as a contractor for unincorporated areas within their jurisdictional control.

Challenges and supporting document references as follows:

1. Applicant prioritized two providers for certain project areas. Two ISP's were weighted based on same or similar project names; however, projects are only similar in name, not service area. Service areas between providers are not comparable, infrastructure efforts are completely different. In this project, Naples is showing 1347 "addresses" by the applicant. For comparison, the applicant's application for E.L. Internet Northwest is named "Naples and Highland Flats of Boundary County", which includes Naples and Highland Flats areas with a total of 590 "end users" and "Deep Creek and Pleasant Valley area of Boundary County Idaho" which includes Deep Creek and Pleasant Valley areas with a total of 664 "end users". What was the methodology utilized by the applicant to compare projects for prioritization?



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- 2. Although with good intent, the applicant based their decision of prioritization of projects on an ineffective method of project area evaluation. We challenge the information provided in the application in the following areas.
  - a. Applicant failed to demonstrate capability to provide service to "end users", instead solely gave an "address count" within a given project area, this is an arbitrary number when used for this purpose. With many geographic limitations in Boundary County for fixed wireless, it is not feasible to provide service to every address as the applicant suggests by their service map. How did the applicant determine cost per residence without further information than simply total "addresses" within the project area? And how many "addresses" can the applicant reasonably expect to provide to the "end users" within the claimed project area? At a minimum, there should be an attempt to determine which "addresses" are feasible and which are not. There was no indication with the presentation by Intermax to the applicant, nor is any data provided in the actual application that any attempt was made to determine this crucial information.

Factual information related to challenge presented in (2)(a): From a technical perspective, to attain even moderate accuracy of cost per household, requires a study at a more granular level than simply "addresses" per project area. This fact is highlighted in the applicants submitted supporting information. Although highlighted in several areas throughout the submitted information, key data is embodied in the Idaho Broadband Task Force draft report, specifically in the "Mapping Committee Report."

The excerpts starting in the next paragraph, support the method utilized by Boundary County (applicant) through E.L. Internet Northwest as a preferred provider on several projects. E.L. Internet Northwest supplied actual "end user" delivery capability through geospatial studies in our presentation to the applicant. Most of this data was included with the applicant's submission to the State, however the actual methodology and mapping were not included. For the States consideration, please refer to PDF attachments entitled "Geospatial Analysis Deep Creek and Pleasant Valley area if Boundary County, Idaho E.L. Internet Northwest" and "Geospatial Analysis Naples and Highland Flats of Boundary County E.L. Internet Northwest". Page one is the entire project area, with the following pages as close ups of the same area. Each "end user" location was evaluated for the potential of signal delivery, green "end user" locations have the potential of fixed wireless with our current and proposed new infrastructure, red "end users" do not have access. E.L. Internet Northwest's primary fixed wireless infrastructure consists of 18 tower locations strategically placed county wide for the best customer coverage. E.L. Internet Northwest's studies based on these fixed asset locations are an honest representation of service capability in the project area. These numbers will be slightly off due to obstacles such as trees which require individual site surveys, but typically these are hurdles that can be addressed. Hundreds of man hours went into these studies, what did the applicant receive from Intermax demonstrating this or any effort for their community?



## **64 Automation Lane Bonners Ferry ID 83805** (208) 946-4147 elinternetnw.com

In the applicant's attachments was provided the Idaho Broadband Task Force "Mapping Committee report" the following were findings of the committee. We concur with the report supplied with this application, which demonstrates the applicant did not take all the information in the report into consideration. E.L. Internet Northwest addressed these areas that the committee anticipated would be applied by the FCC by mid-2020, in other words, now. Direct Excerpts of the report, emphasis on blue highlights:

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Recommendations of committee.

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## **64 Automation Lane Bonners Ferry ID 83805** (208) 946-4147 elinternetnw.com

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### 64 Automation Lane Bonners Ferry ID 83805

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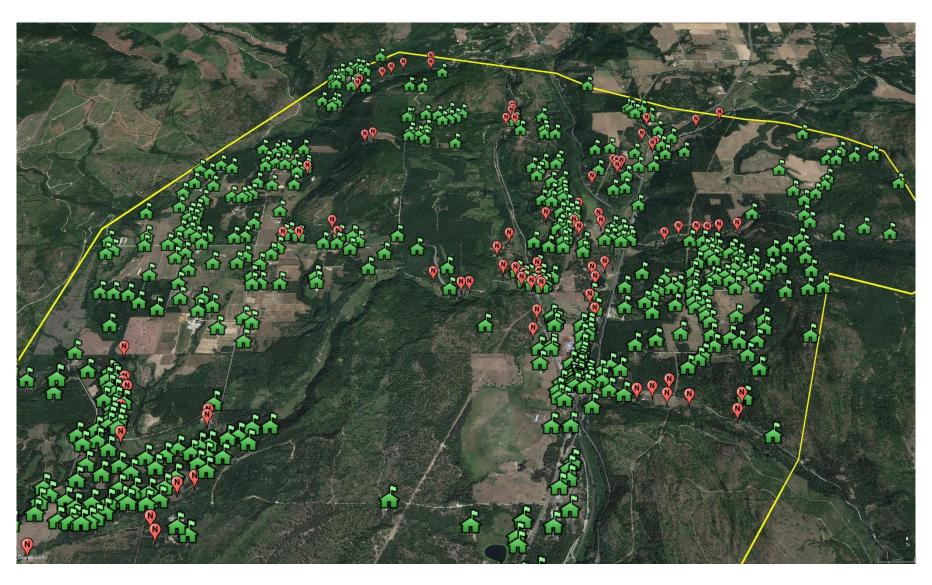
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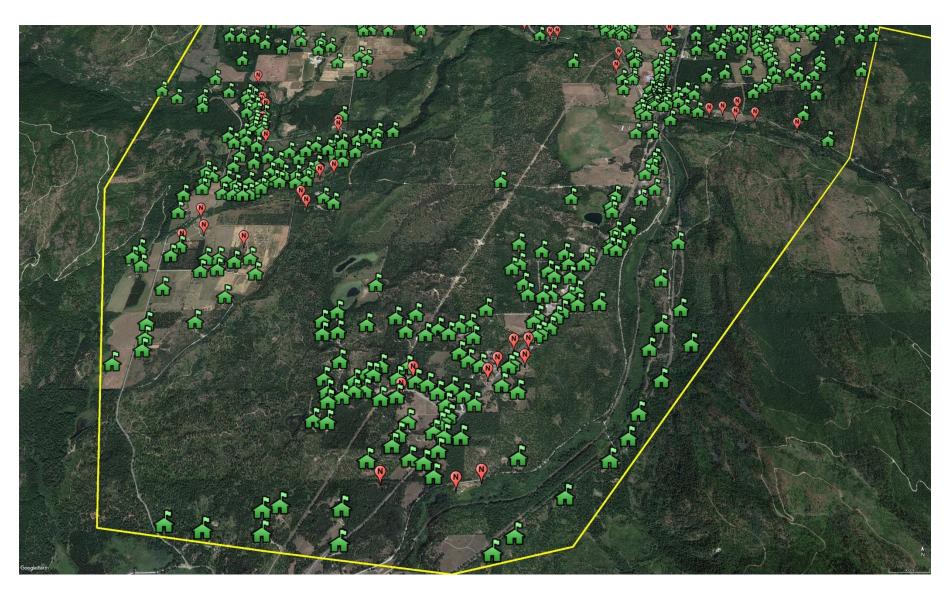
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Proposed project will service 590 homes!

Over 87% of homes in this area!

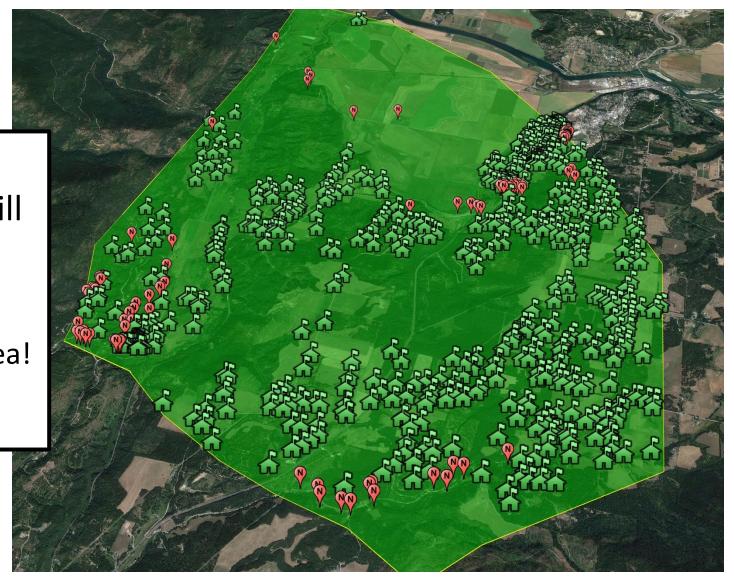


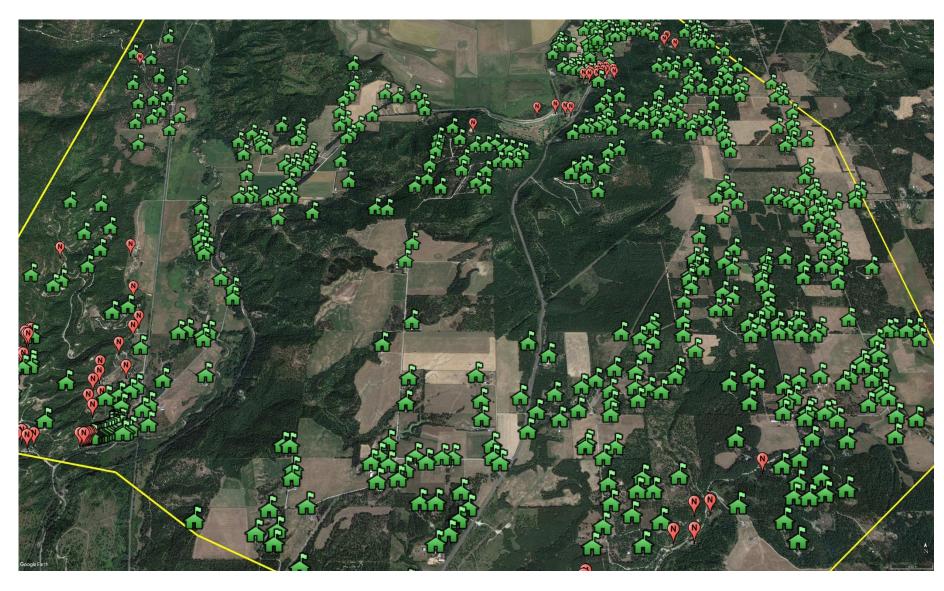




Proposed project area will service 664 homes!

Over 86% of homes in this area!







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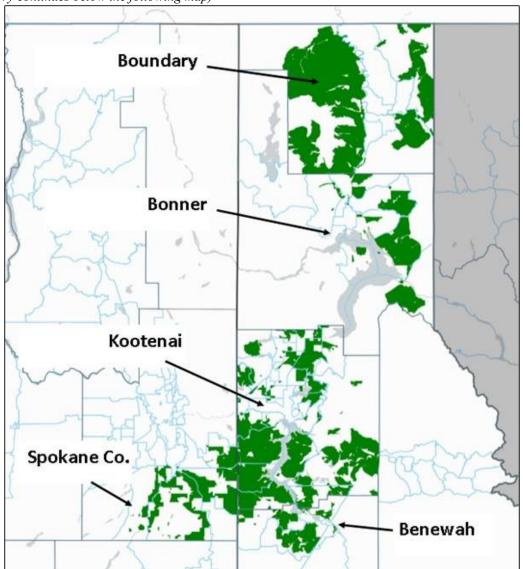
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(Story continues below the following map)



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(Map provided by Intermax Networks)

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Questions or comments about this article? Click here to e-mail!

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By Mike Kennedy | September 14, 2018 | Categories: In the News

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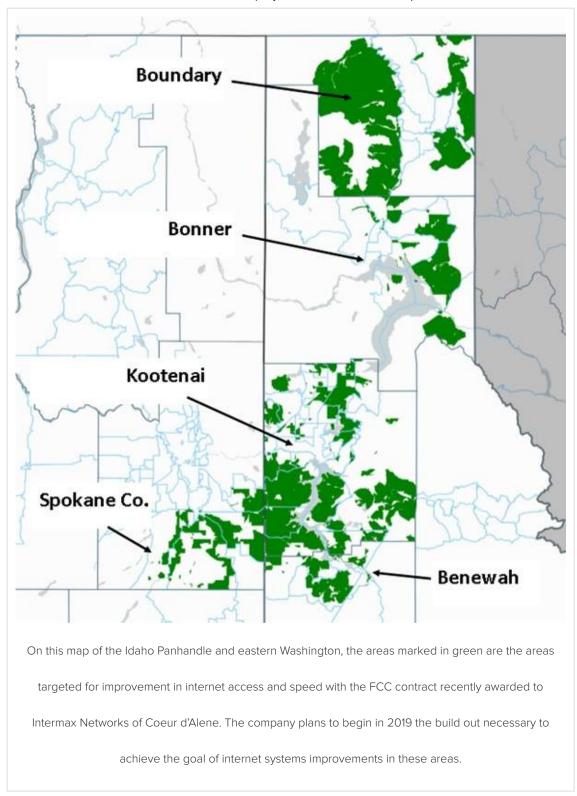
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Click here to view the original article as it appeared on the Bonners Ferry news site.



### **Intermax Networks Acquires Spokane-based Tel-**

### West

By Marcee Hartzell | June 1, 2020

No Comments



# 5.9 GHz Band Boosts Consumer Internet Access During Covid-19 Pandemic

By Marcee Hartzell | May 11, 2020

No Comments

## Frontier Communications Attempts to Derail Rural Broadband Expansion in Idaho

By Marcee Hartzell | April 24, 2020



No Comments



# High-speed fiber 'net coming to Schweitzer Mountain Resort

By Marcee Hartzell | August 5, 2019

No Comments



# INTERMAX FIBER INTERNET CONSTRUCTION TO SMR STARTS

By Marcee Hartzell | August 1, 2019

No Comments



# Brookshire to be First Fiber to the Home Project in Kootenai County

By Marcee Hartzell | July 11, 2019

No Comments

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### **Magaly Carrillo**

From: Stephanie Lederhos <steph@elinternetnw.com>

**Sent:** Friday, July 24, 2020 5:04 PM

To: COM Broadband

**Subject:** Challenges to Broadband Grant Application for Boundary County

Attachments: Challenge to Intermax Proposal - O'Callighan's.pdf; Intermax Networks News Article original BC.pdf;

Intermax Networks News Article.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

Attached documents are challenges to broadband grant applications for Boundary County.

Thank you,

### **Stephanie Franke**



Office Manager E.L. Internet Northwest 208-946-4147



## **64 Automation Lane Bonners Ferry ID 83805**(208) 946-4147 elinternetnw.com

July 24th, 2020

State of Idaho

Department of Commerce

Re: Challenge to application

Boundary County Unincorporated Area

Applicant ID APP-004230

Page 3546 through 3724, of 6450

Application Title "O'Callighan's"

This challenge is presented regarding application for an unincorporated area in Boundary County for project entitled "O'Callighan's", presented by the applicant Boundary County with ISP, Intermax as contractor. The information provided in conjunction with the challenge is pertinent for the Idaho Department of Commerce's determination of award and should be evaluated thoroughly prior to making their decision of award.

We believe that the errors made by the applicant were inadvertently due to time constraints and lack of technical knowledge in wireless and fiber technology. Having said this, these errors are substantial and require review and response by the applicant. Without this information, the Idaho Department of Commerce may inadvertently award grant funds where they should not be awarded; this in our humble, but technically qualified, opinion. The information provided indicates the applicant was in error when considering provider Intermax as a contractor for unincorporated areas within their jurisdictional control.

Challenges and supporting document references as follows:

- 1. Although with good intent, the applicant based their decision of prioritization of projects on an ineffective method of project area evaluation. We challenge the information provided in the application in the following areas.
  - **a.** Applicant failed to demonstrate capability to provide service to "end users", instead solely gave an "address count" within a given project area, this is an arbitrary number when used for this purpose. With many geographic limitations in Boundary County for fixed wireless, it is not feasible to provide service to every address as the applicant suggests by their service map. How did the



### 64 Automation Lane Bonners Ferry ID 83805

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**b.** applicant determine cost per residence without further information than simply total "addresses" within the project area? And how many "addresses" can the applicant reasonably expect to provide to the "end users" within the claimed project area? At a minimum, there should be an attempt to determine which "addresses" are feasible and which are not. There was no indication with the presentation by Intermax to the applicant, nor is any data provided in the actual application that any attempt was made to determine this crucial information.

Factual information related to challenge presented in (2)(a): From a technical perspective, to attain even moderate accuracy of cost per household, requires a study at a more granular level than simply "addresses" per project area. This fact is highlighted in the applicants submitted supporting information. Although highlighted in several areas throughout the submitted information, key data is embodied in the Idaho Broadband Task Force draft report, specifically in the "Mapping Committee Report."

The excerpts starting in the next paragraph, support the method utilized by Boundary County (applicant) through E.L. Internet Northwest as a preferred provider on several projects. E.L. Internet Northwest supplied actual "end user" delivery capability through geospatial studies in our presentation to the applicant. E.L. Internet Northwest's primary fixed wireless infrastructure consists of 18 tower locations strategically placed county wide for the best customer coverage. We did not put in for a Meadow Creek project, this area is well covered by two of our tower locations, therefore we did not put in for funding for this area. What did the applicant receive from Intermax demonstrating any granular effort, or any effort for their community?

In the applicant's attachments was provided the Idaho Broadband Task Force "Mapping Committee report" the following were findings of the committee. We concur with the report supplied with this application, which demonstrates the applicant did not take all the information in the report into consideration. E.L. Internet Northwest addressed these areas that the committee anticipated would be applied by the FCC by mid-2020, in other words, now. Direct Excerpts of the report, emphasis on blue highlights:

"In the Report and Order, the FCC requires fixed providers to submit broadband coverage polygons:

• Service available to end-user locations within 10 business days, include maximum download and upload speeds and technology."

"Utilizing the Digital Opportunity Data Collection by the FCC will help the Idaho Broadband effort by providing more granular data of broadband availability for Idaho communities. This improved information should:

 Provide coverage maps on a much more granular level than the current census-block-level methodology.

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• Identify unserved or underserved areas by clarifying where service exists, and where it does not through maps showing providers' network boundaries, the maximum download/upload speeds offered within that network boundary and the technology for providing service."

"Polygon maps/shapefiles produced by service providers can be combined by an agency (e.g Idaho Broadband Office) to produce geographically accurate broadband availability maps."

"FCC maps show an entire census block is served if only one location has access to service. Thus if only one location in a census block is able to receive broadband and the rest are not, it reports as 100% of the census block is served. This inaccuracy is common in Idaho due to census blocks comprised of large geographic areas"

"Deployment data – broadband transmission technologies and the capabilities of these technologies available to a given geographic location; terrain challenges are also a factor."

### Recommendations of committee.

"Utilize the new FCC Digital Opportunity Data Collection when available for more accurate and detailed broadband availability mapping for all fixed broadband providers. The new data will provide the granularity and consumer input/validation that are key shortcomings today."

- 2. The applicant failed to provide information which defines the scope, correct schedule, or correct Grant Budget for the project. We challenge the information provided in the application in the following related areas.
  - a. No information related to equipment, radio gear, towers or construction was supplied. How is it possible with the information provided for the grant administrator to verify what was installed or completed? Without this transparency, the applicant nor the public has any method to follow progress, or even verify anything was accomplished with the funds awarded. Why was this information not provided as should have accompanied the application?
  - b. Every project schedule provided for every project in Boundary County, when ISP Intermax is the contractor, is identical. We do not understand how the projects each show the exact same schedule when they were described as different approaches on each, none appear to be specific to the project. More importantly, each project schedule shows all work being completed by Fatbeam rather than Intermax? Fatbeam does not even list wireless technology as part of what they do, so how are they performing the work? Just point of interest, 35 applications when Intermax is the contractor for Kootenai, Bonner, and Boundary County all have this exact same project schedule as part of their application. See attached Pdf document entitled "Project schedule Intermax".



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- 3. Applicant Boundary County failed to place emphasis on one of the requirements of the application. The application states "The CARES Act funding received by the State of Idaho will fund projects across the state that **create and retain local jobs** and result in purposeful outcomes,". We challenge this application and request of the applicant answer the following:
  - a. Applicant when utilizing ISP provider and contractor Intermax, did not consider the local community they govern, Boundary County. Intermax has no offices or permanently facility supplying support in Boundary County. Intermax's offices are located in Coeur d'Alene Idaho, some 70 miles from the project areas. How is support of this company good for the local economy and tax base within their jurisdiction?
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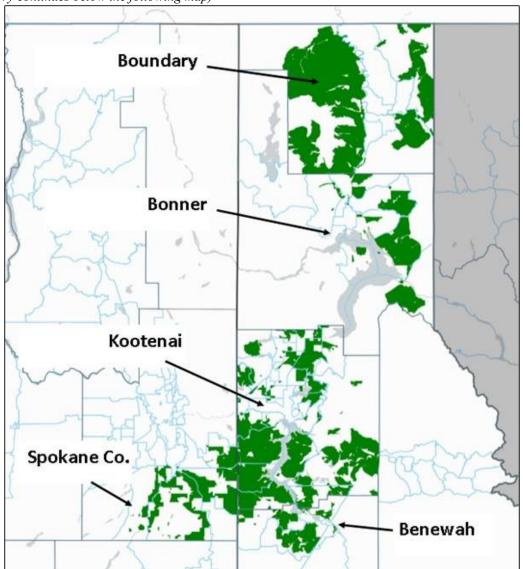
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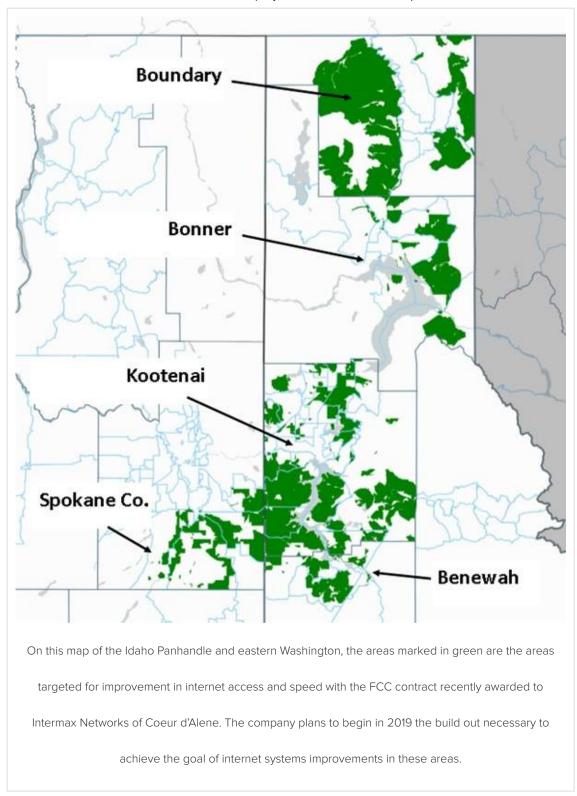
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By Marcee Hartzell | June 1, 2020

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### **Magaly Carrillo**

From: Stephanie Lederhos <steph@elinternetnw.com>

**Sent:** Friday, July 24, 2020 5:05 PM

To: COM Broadband

**Subject:** Challenges to Broadband Grant Application for Boundary County

**Attachments:** Challenge to Intermax Proposal - Porthill.pdf; Intermax Networks News Article original BC.pdf;

Intermax Networks News Article.pdf; Geospatial Analysis Copeland, camp 9 and porthill area of

Boundary County, E.L. Internet Northwest 2.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

Attached documents are challenges to broadband grant applications for Boundary County, Reference: Camp 9 Road.

Thank you,

### **Stephanie Franke**



Office Manager E.L. Internet Northwest 208-946-4147



## **64 Automation Lane Bonners Ferry ID 83805** (208) 946-4147 elinternetnw.com

July 24th, 2020

State of Idaho

Department of Commerce

Re: Challenge to application

Boundary County Unincorporated Area

Applicant ID APP-004230

Page 2611 through 2789, of 6450

Application Title "Porthill"

This challenge is presented regarding application for an unincorporated area in Boundary County for project entitled "Porthill", presented by the applicant Boundary County with ISP, Intermax as contractor. The information provided in conjunction with the challenge is pertinent for the Idaho Department of Commerce's determination of award and should be evaluated thoroughly prior to making their decision of award.

We believe that the errors made by the applicant were inadvertently due to time constraints and lack of technical knowledge in wireless and fiber technology. Having said this, these errors are substantial and require review and response by the applicant. Without this information, the Idaho Department of Commerce may inadvertently award grant funds where they should not be awarded; this in our humble, but technically qualified, opinion. The information provided indicates the applicant was in error when considering provider Intermax as a contractor for unincorporated areas within their jurisdictional control.

Challenges and supporting document references as follows:

1. Applicant prioritized two providers for certain project areas. Two ISP's were weighted based on same or similar project names; however, projects are only similar in name, not service area. Service areas between providers are not comparable, infrastructure efforts are completely different. In this project, Porthill is showing 18 "addresses" by the applicant. For comparison, the applicant's application for E.L. Internet Northwest is named "Copeland, Camp 9 and Porthill area of Boundary County ID", which includes Copeland, Camp 9 and Porthill areas with a total of 760 "end users". What was the methodology utilized by the applicant to compare projects for prioritization?



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2. Although with good intent, the applicant based their decision of prioritization of projects on an ineffective method of project area evaluation. We challenge the information provided in the application in the following areas.

a. Applicant failed to demonstrate capability to provide service to "end users", instead solely gave an "address count" within a given project area, this is an arbitrary number when used for this purpose. With many geographic limitations in Boundary County for fixed wireless, it is not feasible to provide service to every address as the applicant suggests by their service map. How did the applicant determine cost per residence without further information than simply total "addresses" within the project area? And how many "addresses" can the applicant reasonably expect to provide to the "end users" within the claimed project area? At a minimum, there should be an attempt to determine which "addresses" are feasible and which are not. There was no indication with the presentation by Intermax to the applicant, nor is any data provided in the actual application that any attempt was made to determine this crucial information.

**Factual information related to challenge presented in (2)(a):** From a technical perspective, to attain even moderate accuracy of cost per household, requires a study at a more granular level than simply "addresses" per project area. This fact is highlighted in the applicants submitted supporting information. Although highlighted in several areas throughout the submitted information, key data is embodied in the Idaho Broadband Task Force draft report, specifically in the "Mapping Committee Report."

The excerpts starting in the next paragraph, support the method utilized by Boundary County (applicant) through E.L. Internet Northwest as a preferred provider on several projects. E.L. Internet Northwest supplied actual "end user" delivery capability through geospatial studies in our presentation to the applicant. Most of this data was included with the applicant's submission to the State, however the actual methodology and mapping were not included. For the States consideration, please refer to PDF attachment entitled "Geospatial Analysis Copeland, Camp 9 and Porthill area of Boundary County E.L. Internet Northwest". Page one is the entire project area, page two and three are close ups of the same area. Each "end user" location was evaluated for the potential of signal delivery, green "end user" locations have the potential of fixed wireless with our current and proposed new infrastructure, red "end users" do not have access. E.L. Internet Northwest's primary fixed wireless infrastructure consists of 18 tower locations strategically placed county wide for the best customer coverage. E.L. Internet Northwest's studies based on these fixed asset locations are an honest representation of service capability in the project area. These numbers will be slightly off due to obstacles such as trees which require individual site surveys, but typically these are hurdles that can be addressed. Hundreds of man hours went into these studies, what did the applicant receive from Intermax demonstrating this or any effort for their community?



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In the applicant's attachments was provided the Idaho Broadband Task Force "Mapping Committee report" the following were findings of the committee. We concur with the report supplied with this application, which demonstrates the applicant did not take all the information in the report into consideration. E.L. Internet Northwest addressed these areas that the committee anticipated would be applied by the FCC by mid-2020, in other words, now. Direct Excerpts of the report, emphasis on blue highlights:

"In the Report and Order, the FCC requires fixed providers to submit broadband coverage polygons:

- Service available to end-user locations within 10 business days, include maximum download and upload speeds and technology."
- "Utilizing the Digital Opportunity Data Collection by the FCC will help the Idaho Broadband effort by providing more granular data of broadband availability for Idaho communities. This improved information should:
- Provide coverage maps on a much more granular level than the current census-block-level methodology.
- Identify unserved or underserved areas by clarifying where service exists, and where it does not through maps showing providers' network boundaries, the maximum download/upload speeds offered within that network boundary and the technology for providing service."

"Polygon maps/shapefiles produced by service providers can be combined by an agency (e.g Idaho Broadband Office) to produce geographically accurate broadband availability maps."

"FCC maps show an entire census block is served if only one location has access to service. Thus if only one location in a census block is able to receive broadband and the rest are not, it reports as 100% of the census block is served. This inaccuracy is common in Idaho due to census blocks comprised of large geographic areas"

"Deployment data – broadband transmission technologies and the capabilities of these technologies available to a given geographic location; terrain challenges are also a factor."

Recommendations of committee.

"Utilize the new FCC Digital Opportunity Data Collection when available for more accurate and detailed broadband availability mapping for all fixed broadband providers. The new data will provide the granularity and consumer input/validation that are key shortcomings today."



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- 3. The applicant failed to provide information which defines the scope, correct schedule, or correct Grant Budget for the project. We challenge the information provided in the application in the following related areas.
  - a. No information related to equipment, radio gear, towers or construction was supplied. How is it possible with the information provided for the grant administrator to verify what was installed or completed? Without this transparency, the applicant nor the public has any method to follow progress, or even verify anything was accomplished with the funds awarded. Why was this information not provided as should have accompanied the application?
  - b. Every project schedule provided for every project in Boundary County, when ISP Intermax is the contractor, is identical. We do not understand how the projects each show the exact same schedule when they were described as different approaches on each, none appear to be specific to the project. More importantly, each project schedule shows all work being completed by Fatbeam rather than Intermax? Fatbeam does not even list wireless technology as part of what they do, so how are they performing the work? Just point of interest, 35 applications when Intermax is the contractor for Kootenai, Bonner, and Boundary County all have this exact same project schedule as part of their application. See attached Pdf document entitled "Project schedule Intermax".
  - c. Every Grant Budget provided for every project by the applicant Boundary County, when ISP Intermax is the contractor, is identical. We do not understand how all Grant Budgets each show the exact same information when in the body of the application the figures are not what is shown on the Grant Budget? As a point of interest, 35 applications, when Intermax is the contractor for Kootenai, Bonner, and Boundary County, all have this exact same Grant Budget as part of their application. See attached Pdf document entitled "Grant Budget Intermax".
- 4. Applicant Boundary County failed to place emphasis on one of the requirements of the application. The application states "The CARES Act funding received by the State of Idaho will fund projects across the state that **create and retain local jobs** and result in purposeful outcomes,". We challenge this application and request of the applicant answer the following:
  - a. Applicant when utilizing ISP provider and contractor Intermax, did not consider the local community they govern, Boundary County. Intermax has no offices or permanently facility supplying support in Boundary County. Intermax's offices are located in Coeur d'Alene Idaho, some 70 miles from the project areas. How is support of this company good for the local economy and tax base within their jurisdiction?



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#### **64 Automation Lane Bonners Ferry ID 83805** (208) 946-4147 elinternetnw.com

b. E.L. Internet Northwest currently provides 23 local jobs, growing continuously. E.L. Internet Northwest has a large local facility and support fully the local economy. E.L. Internet Northwest creates a substantial tax base for the operation of Boundary County government, the applicant.

- 5. Final Challenge and this of the utmost importance. The applicant failed to consider what was discussed by their contractor Intermax for several of these projects. We challenge the following items:
  - a. Applicant failed to consider an existing grant which their supported contractor Intermax has achieved. In 2018, Intermax was awarded over an eleven-million-dollar grant (\$11,000,000.00). Roughly three million dollars dedicated to Boundary County. By Intermax's admission in open meeting, ten months ago they received these funds. With these funds in hand, which were defined to bring Boundary County to 25/3 Broadband speed using wireless technology and fiber, why are they applying through the applicant and this grant project for these funds? Please see two Pdf attached articles, one from Intermax, entitled "Intermax Networks News Article", the second entitled "Intermax Networks News Article original BC"
  - b. Applicant failed to consider the loss of funding for their community through the Cares Act Grant. Statements made in open meeting by Intermax, wherein they said "if we utilize funds from the Cares Act grant, those same amounts must be removed from the \$11,000,000.00 already achieved. Does the applicant recall this discussion? And if so, why does the applicant wish to reduce the amount being available to their community by the amount Intermax would receive from these funds, if awarded? As a challenger, how does this make sense to the applicant, can you please explain?

In closing, E.L. Internet Northwest is a community member, Boundary County is our home. It is unfortunate that we are placed in a position to challenge Boundary County as the applicant. We support this community, we have never raised our pricing, only lowered it, while investing millions in infrastructure. We hope the applicant will reconsider their applications based on the information we provided and withdraw their support of a company that is not a community member. The same company that already has in hand three million dollars of Federal monies to compete with a company that has made it all happen with their own.

Best regards,

Eric Lederhos

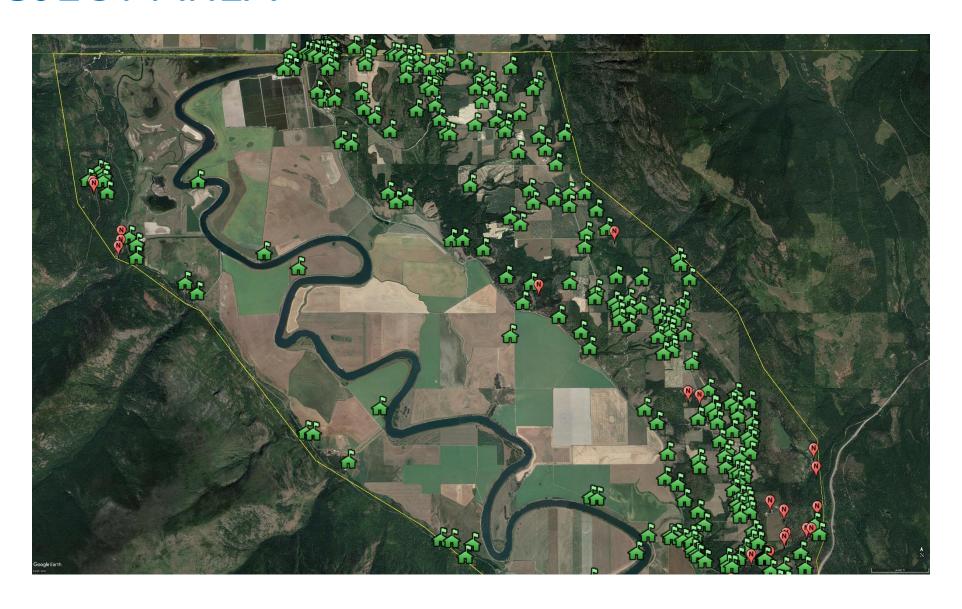
Erin Lo Senton



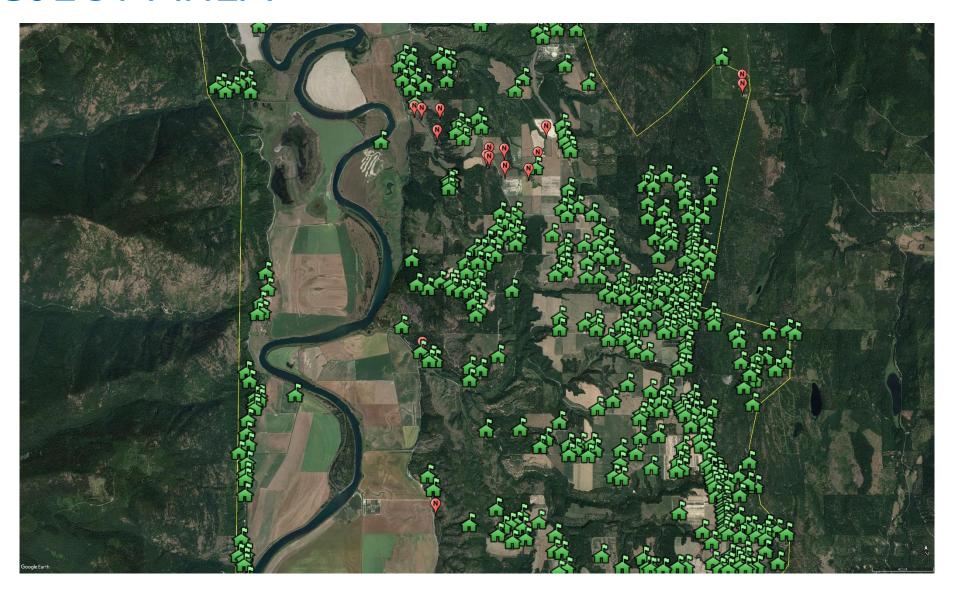
### **PROJECT AREA**



# **PROJECT AREA**



## **PROJECT AREA**





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# Coeur d'Alene company receives federal contract to expand and improve internet access and service in Boundary County along with other areas of Idaho Panhandle

September 12, 2018

A Coeur d'Alene internet service provider, whose market includes Boundary County, has received a large federal award to finance major upgrades in internet speed and access to areas of Boundary County and other parts of the Idaho panhandle that have limited or no internet service.

Mike Kennedy, President of Coeur d'Alene-based Intermax Networks, announced that Intermax was awarded a contract for \$11.5 million from the Federal Communications Commission to expand



broadband internet service in rural areas of Boundary, Bonner, Kootenai, and Benewah counties of Idaho, and Spokane County in Washington.

Mr. Kennedy explained that funding for the contract comes from the Universal Service Fund, a small fee that all cellphone

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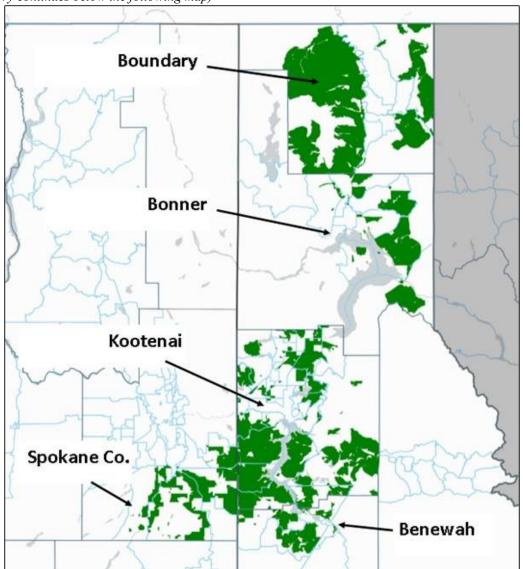
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(Story continues below the following map)



On this map of the Idaho Panhandle and eastern Washington, the areas marked in green are the areas targeted for improvement in internet access and speed with the FCC contract recently awarded to Intermax Networks of Coeeur d'Alene. The company plans to begin in 2019 the buildout necessary to achieve the goal of internet systems improvements in these areas.

(Map provided by Intermax Networks)

Asked if his company had worked with any local Boundary County agencies or government entities in

putting together the proposal for this funding from the Federal Communications Commission, he replied that they had no formal association with any local agency. "We were under a very strict non-communication agreement stipulated by the FCC," he said.

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Questions or comments about this article? Click here to e-mail!

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#### **COEUR D'ALENE** RECEIVES FEDERAL CONTRACT

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By Mike Kennedy | September 14, 2018 | Categories: In the News

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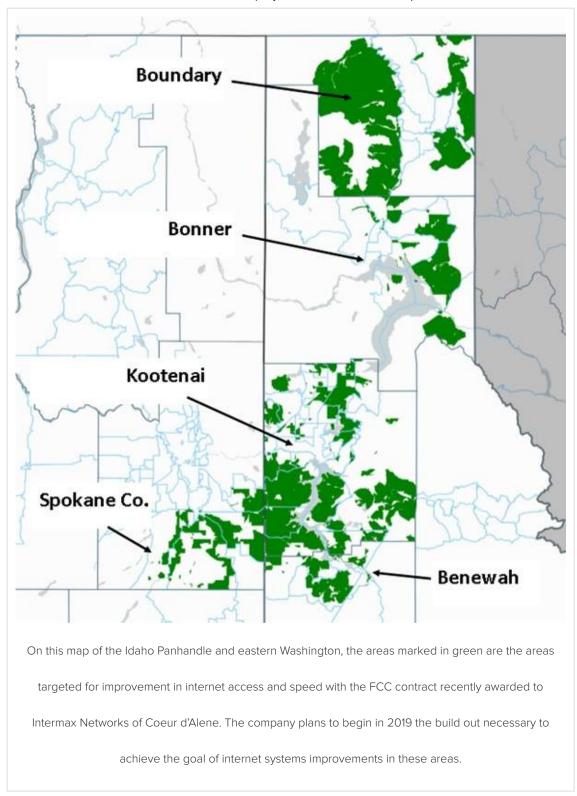
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By Marcee Hartzell | June 1, 2020

No Comments



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By Marcee Hartzell | August 5, 2019

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No Comments



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By Marcee Hartzell | July 11, 2019

No Comments

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July 21, 2020

Tom Kealey, Director Idaho Department of Commerce 700 W State Street Boise, ID 83702

RE: Idaho CARES Act Broadband Grant - Challenge

Dear Director Kealey,

Inland Cellular applauds the State of Idaho's use of CARES Act funding to support deployment of broadband. Access to broadband in rural Idaho has been a challenge that Inland Cellular has been working on solving. Inland Cellular has made significant investments across north central Idaho on mobile and fixed wireless solutions to provide connectivity to rural Idaho communities.

We are writing to specifically address the proposal: *Idaho County Fixed Wireless Broadband Project.* Our objection to this application is:

• Per grant guidelines published by the Idaho Department of Commerce:

"2. Eligible Projects A. iii. Be a project that serves underbuilt areas and does not overbuild existing broadband service... A. iv. Include only new broadband service..."

- Part of this grant request is to provide broadband service in White Bird, Idaho
- Inland Cellular deployed fixed wireless broadband service in the White Bird community and surrounding area in February 2020. The Inland Cellular fixed internet service delivers service packages of 25/5 Mbps for \$50/month and 50/10 Mbps for \$70/month. Attached is an RF map showing our coverage of White Bird.
  - It should be noted that our service does not cover everyone in the zip code who
    might need service; there are sure to be residents in remote areas that still need
    service.

We appreciate the Idaho Department of Commerce's commitment to expanding broadband availability across rural Idaho, and for the applicant's dedication to providing broadband service in needed areas. Thank you for your consideration to not overbuild the Inland Cellular established fixed wireless internet service in the White Bird community.

Sincerely,

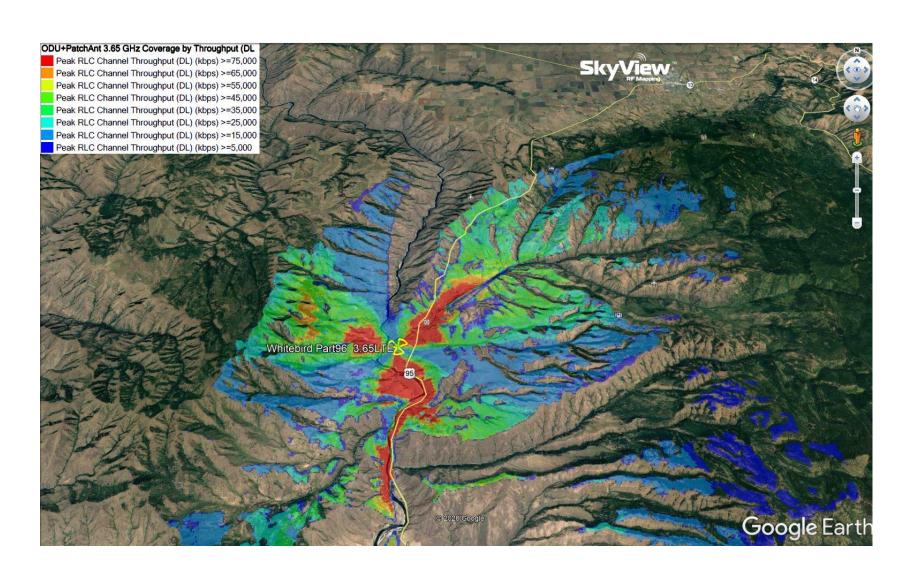
Mike Bly

SVP Business Operations

1112 36<sup>th</sup> Street N Lewiston, ID 83501 208-798-0245



#### Whitebird, ID coverage



**Service Plans** 

25/5 Mbps \$ 50/month 50/10 Mbps \$ 70/month