

Public Notice Submission

Provider Name: Prairie Grove Telephone Company, Inc.

Summary: Prairie Grove Telephone Company, established in 1888, serves over 8,700 lines in 4 exchanges in the northwest corner of Arkansas. The commercial and plant offices are located in Prairie Grove, Arkansas. Prairie Grove Telephone Company serves a predominantly rural economic base centered on agriculture, timber, and gas production. Backed by over a century of local service, Prairie Grove is a powerhouse of telecommunications technology. Prairie Grove Telephone Company strives to bring its customers the latest and most advanced telecommunications products and services. Prairie Grove has invested considerably in fiber infrastructure over the past decade to connect each exchange central office to the company's main access points enabling the company to deploy broadband services to these remote rural areas. Prairie Grove historically has taken advantage of the Rural Utilities Services financing programs as a means to invest in this infrastructure build out. Prairie Grove's current construction activities involves deploying more fiber facilities to all node locations in order to meet their goal of being the premier broadband provider. As a part of Prairie Grove's commitment to provide bandwidth services to its customers, the company has obtained first mile commitments in order to support these services. Prairie Grove Telephone Company demonstrates that it provides broadband service throughout its entire service area located in Arkansas, which is included in the proposed funded Service Area in some BTOP applications and that Prairie Grove Telephone's service area is not unserved or underserved. 100% of the households in Prairie Grove Telephone's service area are able to readily subscribe upon request to facilities-based, terrestrial broadband services at a minimum transmission speed of greater than 768 kbps downstream and 200 kbps upstream from Prairie Grove Telephone; 100% of the households in Prairie Grove Telephone's service area have access to facilities-based, terrestrial broadband service at greater than the minimum broadband transmission speed as set forth in the definition of broadband; Prairie Grove Telephone advertises broadband service at broadband transmission speeds of at least 3 megabits per second downstream throughout its service area; and the rate of broadband subscribership in Prairie Grove Telephone's service area is greater than 40 percent of households. Based on the foregoing, Prairie Grove Telephone Company has demonstrated that all claims that the proposed funded service area which overlaps Prairie Grove Telephone's service area is [unserved/underserved] is not correct. Further, because 100% of households in Prairie Grove Telephone's service area are able to readily subscribe upon request to facilities-based, terrestrial broadband services at a minimum transmission speed of greater than 768 kbps downstream and 200 kbps upstream from Prairie Grove Telephone, the proposed funded service area that overlaps Prairie Grove Telephone's service area is not underserved.