

## **Public Notice Submission**

**Provider Name:** Mid-Plains Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc.

**Summary:** Mid-Plains Rural Telephone Cooperative, Inc. (MPRTC) currently provides broadband services to portions of the census tracts included as part of this service provider response. Additionally, MPRTC is currently deploying Fiber-to-the-Premise (FTTP) through an RUS Loan which will bring broadband service to a larger portion of our subscriber base. MPRTC has also submitted a Round 2 RUS BIP application requesting funds to deploy additional FTTP equipment in areas within these census tracts.

MPRTC is also cooperating with Texas A&M University on their BTOP application (application ID 7487). This middle mile application project is a public/private partnership between Texas A&M University System members and regional telephone companies to build fiber and upgrade transmission equipment between these system member and telephone company locations. Benefits of the project include the ability to provide cost effective high speed connectivity between educational facilities, public safety facilities, and other facilities which today lack such connectivity. MPRTC fully supports this BTOP application and intends to coordinate with Texas A&M to provide interconnection facilities at certain locations. Since MPRTC has no way of knowing if there are other applicants in these identified census tracts, MPRTC is submitting this service provider response to notify the NTIA of the level of last mile broadband services that MPRTC offers in these areas in the event that the NTIA can utilize this information in their evaluation of any other applications besides the Texas A&M application.