

## **Public Notice Submission**

**Provider Name:** Vernon Telephone Cooperative

**Summary:** Vernon Telephone Cooperative serves the census tracts which are documented in this filing. These areas are not unserved nor underserved by definition. Awarding stimulus funds in these areas would duplicate facilities already in place. This duplication is not a wise expenditure of public funds. Not only would it diminish any government investment or subsidy already in place, it would diminish the worth of private sector investments as well. This is opposite any goals set forth in the ARRA. The duplication of facilities also jeopardizes the viability of existing service providers, jobs, and sustainable economic stability. Vernon Cooperative has invested funds to provide a high speed network to consumers. This network meets and exceeds the speeds listed as the minimum in the NOFA 2. There is established competition in this area.