

Public Notice Submission

Provider Name: Choice Phone, LLC

Summary: Choice Phone LLC (“CHOICE”) operates two wireless networks on Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (“CNMI”). Choice has deployed and provides an iDen radio interconnect service with NEXTEL type service and a 1.9GHz PCS GSM network.

The iDen system provides a reliable but low speed data service over Guam, Saipan, Tinian and Rota. CHOICE has also deployed EDGE network on the PCS Broadband E Block throughout the Island of Guam. This service provides a 3G data service as part of its GSM service offerings. During the past two years, CHOICE vigorously competed with multiple applicants in FCC Auction 73 for 700 MHz Band and Auction 78 for 1710-1755/2110-2155 MHz bands. CHOICE was a successful bidder and has invested significant sums for the B Block 700 MHz Band and D Block AWS License. This investment was based upon the understanding that all winners of the licenses would be required to obtain the investment for build out from private sources.

After adequate availability of subscriber equipment, CHOICE intends to implement LTE technology for the 700 MHz B Block on Guam and in the CNMI. CHOICE is currently building the necessary towers to implement wireless broadband services throughout Guam and the CNMI. The RF infrastructure is currently planned; construction is delayed, however, until adequate subscriber equipment become available. This delay is to avoid stranded investment of infrastructure without adequate subscribers.

The feasibility of Choice’s investments will be reduced to the extent that one or more competitors receive direct federal investment to deploy competing wireless data technologies. Choice would have difficulty competing in a market with a service provider that has built its infrastructure utilizing public subsidies.

CHOICE did not submit an application for an NTIA BTOP Grant because subscribers on Guam are well served by the current wire line and wireless market offering competitive data services and will continue to be well served by service providers currently holding FCC licenses that were obtained through competitive auctions from the Federal Communications Commission. The Guam and CNMI wireless data spectrum remained active for 168 rounds of Auction 73 (total 261 rounds) and 33 rounds of Auction 78 (total 38 rounds). The auction results prove Guam enjoys a well funded competitive market without the need of federal grant funding to build its telecommunications infrastructure.