

Public Notice Submission

Provider Name: Lost Nation-Elwood Telephone Company

Summary: Lost Nation-Elwood Telephone Company 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 investment 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. Lost Nation-Elwood 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 also established competition in these areas. Lost Nation-Elwood currently has an RUS loan for its fiber overbuild project. Awarding funds to another provider will also jeopardize the existing government loan.