

Public Notice Submission

Provider Name: Pulse Mobile, LLC

Summary: Pulse Mobile, LLC, doing business on Guam as mPulse Wireless, is a wholly-owned subsidiary of GTA TeleGuam. The company has been providing wireless services since 1992; but as a Government of Guam entity, it was unable to effectively compete with private carriers, and as a result, had the lowest market share. Privatization in January 2005 changed that dynamic. Since privatization of GTA, mPulse Wireless has invested more than \$20 million to expand and improve its wireless offerings on Guam to effectively compete against larger, established wireless providers. Another \$2 million is planned for 2010. Further, in that same time period, other wireless providers on Guam accelerated their capital improvement plans, began offering new products, and improved their service levels. Hence, on Guam, households, businesses, and community anchors on Guam do not lack high-speed broadband access today. The mPulse 3G/GSM network supports download speeds of up to 4Mbps with plans to increase to 7Mbps. As the accompanying confidential data show, mPulse already has a significant number of 3G subscribers capable of up to 4Mbps download speeds. The company plans to upgrade its 3G network to HSPA+, and it already has invested in AWS spectrum in anticipation of deploying faster broadband speeds in the form of a 4G network based on LTE technology. Subsidizing a single competitor to overbuild such private investment on Guam will disrupt the growing and thriving competitive landscape. It could set back the market to pre-privatization days of high wireless rates, slow innovation and poor service levels. The NTIA should avoid any grants that would upset the type of competitive broadband market environment that the FCC envisions in its National Broadband Plan--the type that is developing in Guam.