

Title **0011** 02/09/2021

by **Jacques Fluker** in **RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENT - BROADBAND ACCELERATION GRANT APPLICANTS** id. 19176611

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Original Submission 02/09/2021

Please provide your name: **Jacques Fluker**

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I am providing response comments related to the following application (choose one): **KwiKom Communications - McPherson County**

I am responding to concerns this project: **Proposes to serve an area that already has service
Proposes service to an area in which construction is already underway**

Please provide your response to the public comments received in the text box below. **In response to Mutual Telephone Company:
Based on the second map provided by Mutual Telephone Company (MTC) outlining the area served by MTC, the area is in Rice County, not McPherson County. The far western portion of McPherson County, Census Block 201137883002 was included in the recent RDOF auction indicating that 25mbps download by 3mbps upload internet service is not available and is included in the proposed area to be serviced by the Windom grain elevator. As a product of fixed wireless part of the coverage predictions overlap with MTC service areas, although this overlap is not the target audience and KwiKom is**

not establishing any new points of presence inside MTC's coverage area. KwiKom has not requested any funding for equipment at client locations and only for the 50% match to deploy these points of presence therefore none of the grant dollars in our proposal will specifically be used inside the MTC coverage area.

In response to Home Communications, Inc:

Based on the map provided by Home Communications, Inc (HCI) the proposed coverage does overlap in areas. As a product of fixed wireless part of the coverage predictions overlap with HCI service areas, although this overlap is not the target audience and KwiKom is not establishing any new points of presence inside HCI's coverage area. KwiKom has not requested any funding for equipment at client locations and only for the 50% match to deploy these points of presence therefore none of the grant dollars in our proposal will specifically be used inside the HCI coverage area.

In response to Home Telephone Company:

Based on the map provided by Home Telephone Company (HTC) the proposed coverages do overlap in areas. As a product of fixed wireless part of the coverage predictions overlap with HTCs service areas, although this overlap is not the target audience. KwiKom is establishing points of presence (PoP) inside of HTCs coverage area but this is in order to service rural homes outside of HTCs service area. These PoPs are close to the edge of HTCs service area and some of the only locations available to provide sufficient service to the target audience. KwiKom has not requested any funding for equipment at client locations and only for the 50% match to deploy these PoPs therefore none of the grant dollars in our proposal will specifically be used for client location equipment inside the HTC service area.

In response to IdeaTek:

IdeaTek points out a fiber optic backbone and provides for future scalability of the wireless deployments. Our design provides for immediate deployment of fixed wireless internet, not future. In the map provided by IdeaTek to The Hutchinson News on October 9, 2020 outlining the area covered by the \$13.7 CERG. Only the far southwestern tip of McPherson is shown as part of the grant. The article also indicates the towns that will be receiving gigabit fiber, not rural areas. Also, the reality of being able to confidently and reliably provide 100Mbps Fixed Wireless with current technology is still up for debate. KwiKom however delivers what is advertised and will be moving to providing up to 50 Mbps service in the near future but not until we believe that service is fully available to all subscribers as advertised.

In response to LR Communications:

The map provided by LR shows an area served to the west, which is Rice County not McPherson County, and is not in the areas proposed by KwiKom.

The area to the south of the blue zone near McPherson consists of census blocks 201137883002, 201137883001, 201137887005,

201137887002, 201137887001 which were part of the RDOF auction which started in October of 2020. LR Communications states: “Our 477 submission for the June 6th 2020 is attached (LR Communications.477.6.30.2020), which shows existing fiber as well as wireless deployments meeting the thresholds, unfortunately the FCC’s 477 mapping is older data based off of 12/31/2019 data and does not reflect the most current offerings.” Per the RDOF rules, LR had the right to challenge the census tracts listed above and have them removed from the RDOF auction which they did not do. We are unclear why KwiKom is being challenged by LR Communications when LR Communications did not make the same challenge available to them in 4th quarter of 2020. The RDOF auction map indicates census tracts open for bid. Before the auction took place, the FCC provided corrections to the map based on challenges made by internet providers. No challenge was made in the KwiKom proposed area.

KwiKom is resubmitting the letter of support from Mid Kansas Coop which has a vested interest in the KwiKom investment in broadband for their coop members.

Please provide supporting documents relative to your comments. Please submit multiple files as a ZIP file.

[KwiKom_McPherson_Supporting.zip](#)

Jacques Fluker 2/9/2021

By submitting this form for public comment and evidence to support your comment, you are accepting responsibility for the accuracy of the information submitted and that it is true and correct to the best of your knowledge. You agree to be contacted by the Kansas Office of Broadband Development, Kansas Department of Commerce should the need arise. Furthermore, by making this submission, you understand that Kansas Department of Commerce and the Office of Broadband Development reserve the right to publicly publish your comment and evidence provided. Falsification of information will result in rejection of future public comment submissions and could result legal action. Please type your name and today's date in the text box below.
