

Public Notice Submission

Provider Name: Pioneer Communications, Inc

Summary: Pioneer Communications, Inc. is a wireline telecommunications provider serving Western Kansas. Headquartered in Ulysses, Kansas, Pioneer has connected rural communities for more than five decades, and today delivers telephone, cable television and high-speed Internet service. Pioneer first became an Internet Service Provider in 1995 by introducing educational Internet networking services for schools located in its service area, and soon thereafter, made Internet access available commercially to Pioneer's telephone customers. Currently, Pioneer offers broadband internet access to 100% of its wireline service area using Digital Subscriber Line (DSL) over its telephony infrastructure and data over cable modems via its cable television system. Pioneer is fully dedicated to serving Western Kansas, as shown by its current level of service and commitment to continuous upgrades. Pioneer recently began construction of a fiber-to-the-premises (FTTP) project within its service area. The FTTP network will allow the delivery of voice, video and data over the same fiber optic facility, and is designed to easily allow for incremental upgrades in order to reach speeds in excess of 100 Mbps. Pioneer consistently and effectively advertises the availability of its broadband Internet access throughout its service area. For example, advertisements for Pioneer's broadband internet access service can be found in local newspapers, on television, on billing inserts and on the radio. Pioneer also frequently advertises by providing sponsorship to area high school events and other local, community activities. Pioneer Communications applauds any effort to support rural America, but also contends that its service territory in Western Kansas is well-served by broadband internet access as shown by the attached data.